

NODULE X29

JACK RUBY AND THE CONTRACT  
OUT ON OSWALD



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JACK RUBY was a Jewish gangster, a Meyer Lansky wannabe. His story began in Czarist Russia when Joseph Rubenstein, a Jewish peasant, became an infantryman and paid a matchmaker to find him a wife. The matchmaker introduced him to Fannie Rutkowski, the daughter of a prosperous physician. Fannie Rutkowski came from a much better background than Joseph Rubenstein, and she resented her arranged marriage. The Rubensteins had two children, Hyman and Ann, before Joseph Rubenstein was transferred to Siberia. In 1903 Joseph Rubenstein deserted, then immigrated to America. He left his family in Russia. Joseph Rubenstein settled in Chicago. In 1904 Joseph Rubenstein joined a carpenter's union and a year later he sent for his family. [CIA 1165-432-P; WCR p779] By the time JACOB (JACK) RUBENSTEIN was born in April or March 1911, Joseph Rubenstein was the neighborhood drunk. Eight children lived in the Rubenstein's three room apartment. Two other Rubensteins had died in childbirth. Fannie Rubenstein went insane from poverty and repeated pregnancy. She claimed that a fish bone was lodged in her throat and she believed her husband was having an incestual relationship with her daughter. There were violent arguments. Fannie Rubenstein was described as illiterate, unable to speak English, four feet six inches tall, one hundred and eighty-two pounds, build obese, red hair and blue eyes. Her prognosis was poor "because of the poor personality of the patient and the long duration (24 years) of her mental abnormality." [Elgin State Hospital report 8.12.37] By JACK'S fifth birthday his older brother Hyman had been declared an incorrigible by Juvenile Court in Chicago. Hyman Rubenstein would become part of Chicago's Democratic machine, well known for its corruption, and he was appointed sidewalk inspector of his ward, a position he held for eight years. [WCR p785] JACK RUBENSTEIN attended public school, but dropped out in the fourth grade at age nine.

## AL CAPONE



In 1921, when JACK RUBENSTEIN was only ten years old, he became a member of the Dave "Yiddles" Miller gang, led by David Miller, a Capone-connected prizefight referee and bookie, who survived an encounter with Dion O'Banion, Chicago's top Irish hoodlum and arch-rival of Al Capone. [John Kobler, *Capone*, Putnams, N.Y. 1971 p80] There was a reference to a Chicago gangland figure named "Dave Miller" in the Kefauver Hearings on Interstate Organized Crime, although David Miller is a very common name. [U.S. Cong. Senate Special Committee to Invest. Organized Crime in Interstate Comm.] By the time he was 11, JACK RUBENSTEIN scalped tickets at sporting events on behalf of David Miller. In 1922 JACK RUBENSTEIN was referred to the Jewish Social Services Bureau because of his "disregard for other people's property" and an "interest in street gangs. [WCR pgs. 779-786] In 1923, when JACK RUBENSTEIN was 12, the court ordered the Jewish Welfare Bureau to place him in a foster home outside of Chicago. By 1924 JACK RUBENSTEIN

was back in Chicago where he scalped tickets and made book. JACK RUBENSTEIN assaulted a police officer during an altercation about ticket scalping. Hyman Rubenstein had the charges dropped. Because of his aggressiveness, JACK RUBENSTEIN earned the nickname "Sparky."



In 1926 JACK RUBENSTEIN became a messenger for the Capone gang. Barney Ross, who had also made the transition from the Miller gang to the Capone mob, told the FBI: "When I began my prize fighting career in 1926, back in the 24th Ward, JACK RUBENSTEIN and I ran errands for Capone." Barney Ross said that Al Capone had sponsored him, and that Ralph and Matty Capone, along with Frank Nitty, were all close followers of his boxing career. [WCE 1288; WC ltr. Rankin to Hoover 6.64] During this time Al Capone collected dozens of errand boys. Charles Gioe, an associate of Johnny Rosselli, was described by the Kefauver Committee in 1950 as having once been a "messenger boy" for Al Capone. [Kefauver Hearings p5, p356 as cited by P.D. Scott] Two of RUBENSTEIN'S associates, David Yaras (born November 7, 1912; died January 1974), and Lenny Patrick, were executioners for the Capone mob. [HSCA V9 paragraph 1195; Eva Rubenstein Grant WC Test.] David Yaras began as a pinball and slot machine concessionaire under Al Capone. Robert F. Kennedy called him "a notorious Chicago racketeer." [Moldea, *HOFFA Wars*, p124] JACK RUBENSTEIN joined the Capone gang shortly after Al Capone inherited Chicago gangland leadership from Johnny Torrio. By 1926 the Capone family, along with Johnny Rosselli, Sam Giancana, Tony Accardo, Jake Guzik and other hoodlums had amassed hundreds of millions of dollars from bootlegging, gambling and prostitution. From 1926 to 1929 JACK RUBENSTEIN worked for the Capone mob.



Many documents linked JACK RUBENSTEIN to Al Capone and the mafia. When the FBI conducted its investigation into JACK RUBENSTEIN'S background in 1964, it interviewed James Allegetti, described as "the top local organized crime figure in Chicago." James Allegetti admitted he "may have seen RUBY back in the Al Capone days..." but became agitated when the FBI pressed the issue: "I told you, he was not connected, he was not mobbed-up!" Matty Brescia was also questioned by the FBI about RUBY. The partner of Matty Brescia, Lew Farrell, was described as being a "Top Hoodlum" from Chicago. Lew Farrell was on the fringes of the Al Capone mob and had moved into labor racketeering, where he maintained a close association with James HOFFA. [FBI #DL 44-1639 11.25.63 Chicago; FBI DL-44-1639-6266] In 1978 Matty Brescia was mentioned during the HSCA testimony of RUBY associate Lewis J. McWillie. [HSCA V5 pgs 28, 87]

Eva Rubenstein Grant, JACK RUBENSTEIN's sister, supplied evidence that linked JACK RUBENSTEIN to the Al Capone mob, when she admitted this to a friend: "Jack and I were connected with the Capone mob in Chicago." This information came to light on November 13, 1962, when the sister of a friend of Eva Rubenstein named Susan Brown, telephoned the FBI Dallas office and reported that her sister had told her that

Eva Rubenstein had said this. In 1964 the Warren Commission interviewed Susan Brown and her sister. Both of them maintained their recollection of the conversation. The Warren Commission had its representative inform Eva Rubenstein about the accusations of the Brown sisters. Eva Rubenstein called the Brown sisters and confronted them with their charges. This frightened the Brown sisters and they complained to the FBI.

The FBI burned the Brown sisters because they supplied the Bureau with information which contradicted the FBI's line that Ruby was not a member of organized crime. Even in 1963, J. Edgar Hoover maintained that organized crime, or the mafia, did not exist, so how could Ruby have been a member or associate? The Brown sisters learned that FBI and the Warren Commission were intent on ignoring RUBY'S long term membership in the mafia and anyone who got in their way would be sacrificed. [FBI 44-29016-2074 10.15.64]

RUBY explained to the Warren Commission the reason he was acquainted with Chicago's top hoodlums at an early age was because of ticket scalping: "When you live in the city of Chicago and you are in the livelihood of selling tickets to sporting events, your lucrative customers are some of these people...you may know them as you get acquainted with them at the sporting events or the ball park or prizefights." [RUBY WC Test.]

## THE SYNDICATE

Al Capone and Jack Ruby were associated with the syndicate, which was an equal opportunity criminal cartel. The syndicate began circa 1928 when the mafia began admitting Jews as associate members. Legend has it that the syndicate came into existence during a meeting between Al Capone and Meyer Lansky. Al Capone's cousin, "Lucky" Luciano brought the two gangsters together at a meeting of crime families in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and suggested that they discuss a merger between the Jewish and Italian underworld. [Hank Messick, *Lansky*, G.P. Putnam - N.Y. 1971; Dennis Eisenberg, Uri Dan, Eli Landau *Meyer Lansky, Mogul of the Mob* Paddington Press, N.Y. 1979] The Jewish and Italian gangsters formed the most powerful criminal organization in the world.



By 1930 gangland activity in Chicago began to decline. In 1932 Al Capone began serving a sentence for income tax evasion and "Lucky" Luciano took over his position. In 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt ended prohibition. "Lucky" Luciano began to import narcotics to make up for the loss of revenue due to the repeal of prohibition. In 1936, when "Lucky" Luciano went to prison, Joe Adonis was appointed boss of bosses. Joe Adonis put out the word to the families to co-operate with Meyer Lansky, because Meyer Lansky had promised to get "Lucky" Luciano out of prison. [McCoy, Alfred, *The Politics*

of *H in SE Asia*, Harper Row, N.Y. 1972 pgs. 17-27] Meyer Lansky received a share of gambling revenue in Louisiana. Jake Lansky was listed as an officer in an outfit controlling slot machines. Meyer Lansky worked with CARLOS MARCELLO.

### FRANKIE GOLDSTEIN

JACK RUBENSTEIN and his sister, Eva Rubenstein, were involved in illegal gambling, which was controlled by the syndicate. In 1934 they moved to San Francisco where they worked for Frankie Goldstein. [WCE 2328] In 1961 a confidential informant told the FBI that Frankie Goldstein was a bookmaker. The FBI opened a case on him, and investigation revealed he operated a local sporting book for many years, and he frequented the Ambassador Health Club. Information on this club was withheld by the FBI. In 1962 the FBI interviewed Frankie Goldstein's cousin, Anthony Hatsis, the owner of a Salt Lake City nightclub. Anthony Hatsis told them that Frankie Goldstein inquired as to the possibility of setting-up a bookmaking operation in Utah. The FBI tapped the business telephone of Frankie Goldstein. In 1964 Frankie Goldstein told the FBI that JACK RUBENSTEIN and Eva Rubenstein sold newspaper subscriptions for him from 1933 to 1939. Frankie Goldstein insisted that "JACK RUBENSTEIN had no association with hoodlums or with the underworld." In 1977 this researcher called Frank Goldstein and asked him about RUBY'S mob-connections: "The kid worked for me. I don't know any of these names you mention. How'd you got this information?" [FBI DC-44-1639-4707 ,4493; FBI SF 44-194; FBI DL-44-1639-CMS-Cover page, I, J.] RUBY told the Warren Commission: "I have never been a bookmaker." His association with Frankie Goldstein told another story.

### "BONES" REMER

During JACK RUBENSTEIN'S six year stay in California he was also employed by Eugene Shriber, a gambler who worked under "Bones" Remer. "Bones" Remer was the owner of record of the Cal Neva Lounge in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The Cal Neva Lounge was linked to the syndicate by numerous sources, including the Kefauver Committee. Eugene Shriber, who came to California from Chicago in 1933, managed a San Francisco card room for "Bones" Remer and employed JACK RUBENSTEIN and Eva Rubenstein as dealers. [FBI DL-44-1639-4094, 4110; WCD CD360 p115 interview with George T. Davis]

### JOHNNY ROSSELLI



JACK RUBENSTEIN, Frankie Goldstein, "Bones" Remer, and Eugene Shriber worked under mob boss Johnny Rosselli, who controlled bookmaking in California at this time. Johnny Rosselli came to California in 1933, the same year that JACK RUBENSTEIN did. By 1936 Johnny Rosselli controlled gambling on the West Coast. JACK RUBENSTEIN sold tip sheets at Santa Anita raceway. Johnny Rosselli had risen to gangland prominence in the mid-1930's by taking over the wire service at Santa Anita. [Kefauver Hearings Part 5 p399-

400; WCR p786] In 1944 Johnny Rosselli was convicted of labor extortion through a union whose organizers included JACK RUBENSTEIN'S brother-in-law. [WC H V20 p18-cited by Scott] In 1939, JACK RUBENSTEIN, 28, left California for Chicago.

## LABOR RACKETEERING

### PAUL DORFMAN

When JACK RUBENSTEIN returned to Chicago in 1939 he became a labor racketeer. Johnny Rosselli had proven that labor unions could provide a steady source of revenue. JACK RUBENSTEIN contacted a friend from the Capone gang, Paul J. Dorfman (born May 22, 1901; died April 1971). The McClellan committee reported: "Paul Dorfman's connections with members of the old Capone mob are a matter of record." [McClellan Committee, Interim Report p167; FBI CG 44-645 12/18/63 Chicago; WCE 1236, 1293; FBI 44-24016-8. 62-109060-1528]

In 1928 Paul Dorfman, alias Red Paul Dolan were charged with touring a Chicago ward in an automobile "and used terroristic tactics against those opposed to the "America First" ticket. On March 10, 1942 the Chicago Tribune reported, "Detectives yesterday were seeking Paul Dorfman, 34 years old, of 903 Independence boulevard, an ex-prize fighter and secretary treasurer of local 20467 Waste Material Handlers union [AFL] on a charge of assault to commit mayhem. The crime is a punishable by one to 14 years..." In 1948 the Daily Chicago Tribune reported "Joseph R. Dorfman, 50, of 37 N. Austin blvd., was found shot to death at noon yesterday in his private office at 3222 Roosevelt rd., where he operated a real estate firm. Paul Dorfman said he talked to his brother only an hour before the shooting, and that they made plans to attend a funeral..." Paul Dorfman gave JACK RUBENSTEIN a job in the Chicago Waste Handler's Union. Several years later Chicago private detective Bob Mullenix conducted an investigation concerning Paul Dorfman and JACK RUBENSTEIN'S entrance into the Waste Handler's Union. The FBI was unable to question Bob Mullenix in 1964. He was killed in an automobile accident in 1962. [FBI 44-24016-742] Mullenix's files were sent to his brother. [FBI 44-24016-606]

## THE MURDER OF LEON COOKE

Victor Riesel wrote that

Ruby knew a lawyer called Leon Cook. He suggested they organize a union in an unorganized area. It was indicated there would be no difficulty getting a charter from the old AFL (A federal charter is one issued directly by the central office in Washington, not by the national union. They got their charter local 20467 Waste Handlers union.

Victor Riesel was a syndicated labor columnist, blinded in an acid attack by mob. RUBY had Riesel's telephone number in his address book. John Martin was President of the Waste Handler Union. JACK RUBENSTEIN was Secretary-Treasurer. [*Dallas Morn.*

News 11.30.63, Victor Riesel, "RUBY Linked to Racket." FBI 44-1639-3123] Leon Cooke, 27, the Jewish attorney who had originally formed the union, held no office. Leon Cooke only served as an advisor. In late 1939 Leon Cooke told the FBI that he had formed a rival union affiliated with the CIO and had written several letters to junk dealers about this, which he signed "Cook." John Martin had learned of these letters. [FBI DL-44-1639 F-Cover page] On December 8, 1939, John Martin shot Leon Cooke in the back. Before he died, Leon Cooke described what occurred to Chicago Police:

I went to see Martin to protest his conduct of the union. While we were scuffling he grabbed a gun. I told him he was crazy and started to leave. He fired three times. Two bullets hit my overcoat, which was over my arm. The other hit me in the back. I staggered into the hall and took a cab to the hospital.

Physicians there extracted one bullet from the side of Leon Cooke and told him he would probably recover. [*Chicago Tribune* 12.9.39 p.1] Cooke died. After the shooting, John Martin disappeared down the rear fire-escape with the only witness, his secretary. John Martin was under indictment for having conspired with a well known Chicago hoodlum to withhold income tax information from the Internal Revenue Service in the Gambrinus Drawing Company matter. The States Attorney Office was investigating John Martin. It believed that the Waste Handler's Union was a shakedown racket and that JACK RUBENSTEIN was a thug who would intimidate prospective members into joining the union at gunpoint. After the shooting, a member of the State Attorney's office confiscated the union's charter and records then issued the following statement: "We are looking into the union's finances. I am trying to find out where \$1,400 in dues went." When the States Attorney's investigators discovered that Carlos Fontana, a notorious West Side hoodlum, worked for the union, its investigators questioned JACK RUBENSTEIN. He told them: "I had no idea he was a hoodlum."

JACK RUBENSTEIN was questioned about Leon Cooke's murder:

During our conversation with JACK RUBENSTEIN, who is Secretary Treasurer of the Scrap Iron & Junk Handlers Union, he stated that he had been out all day with the President John Martin collecting membership dues and that they entered the office about 3:00 p.m. On their arrival there they found present Gladys Welch, Vice President of the Union, Joseph Medill, employee of Leon Cooke, and Leon Cooke. He remained in the office until about 3:20 p.m. and then left in the company of Medill to go to the northwest side for the purpose of doing some organizational work. The first he knew about the shooting was at 3:30 p.m. when he telephoned his office...Leon Cooke formerly was an organizer for the Junk Handler's Union, and upon his leaving the Union his office of Secretary-Treasurer was taken over by JACK RUBENSTEIN. [Chicago PD Report Central Complaint Room No. 55513]



One day after the shooting John Martin and his secretary turned themselves in. JACK RUBENSTEIN was with them and told the press that Martin had shot Leon Cooke in self-defense. At the trial of John Martin an assistant state's attorney informed the judge that the State had obtained no evidence beyond that presented to a coroner's jury, which had absolved John Martin of blame. John Martin's story at the inquest was that Leon Cooke drew a gun on him and struck him in the face and when he struggled for possession of the weapon, it went off. The police never found any evidence to corroborate John Martin's story that the gun belonged to Leon Cooke. John Martin was acquitted of murder. He left the union. A few months later, JACK RUBENSTEIN left. He adopted the middle name of "Leon" around this time, allegedly to honor his dead friend. RUBY told the Warren Commission: "I am not a gangster. I have never used a goon squad for union activities.

### "NATTY" GUMBIN

Paul Dorfman formed a new local and began to dominate it. He worked closely with Anthony Accardo, a leader of the Chicago mob since the death of Al Capone. On July 28, 1948, when millionaire industrialist Nathan "Natty" Gumbin was shot-gunned to death by two gunmen firing from a moving car, Paul Dorfman was called in for questioning. The Chicago Police stated that the slaying of Nathan Gumbin was linked to the killing of Charles Crane, another industrialist who had negotiated with the Waste Handlers Union. The Intelligence Unit of the Chicago Police Department reported that "Natty" Gumbin and Charles Crane, along with about 100 waste and rag dealers, were allegedly paying monthly installments to a person named "Dorfman," Secretary of the Waste Handlers Union, to guarantee no labor troubles. [FBI 44-24016-358] Years later the Intelligence Unit learned that during a meeting of top syndicate members in Miami in 1953, an unknown person mentioned the execution of "Natty" Gumbin, and the fact that he refused to take part in a deal. The FBI reported: "Gumbin forced to make monthly payments to laborites for labor peace in his business. Apparent guarantee of no labor problems if monthly payments made. Plant employees under two separate unions, one was Waste Material Handlers Union, Paul Dorfman, Secretary-Treasurer. The other was Scrap Iron and Junk Handlers Union founded by Leon Cooke in 1937. Cooke was slain in 1939. Paul Dorfman, upon learning of death of Gumbin, cut short vacation to avail himself for questioning. Had his union offer \$1,000 reward for information leading to solution of murder." The murder of "Natty" Gumbin remained unsolved.

In 1949 Paul Dorfman joined with JIMMY HOFFA in a complex conspiracy to give a million dollars worth of Teamster Pension Fund business to an insurance company owned by Paul Dorfman's son, Allen Dorfman. [*New York Herald Tribune* 8.1.57 pg.1; *New York Mirror* 8.30.57- Riesel] Paul Dorfman continued to run the Waste Handlers Union until 1957, when he was expelled by the National Office of the AFL-CIO. [*NYT* 8.1.57 - Mafia Associate Ousted] The AFL-CIO tolerated Paul Dorfman for more than a decade, but Paul Dorfman's pension fund scheme brought him to the attention of the McClellan Committee, which focused on JIMMY HOFFA and the men around him. Robert F. Kennedy, an attorney for the McClellan Committee, wrote: "Everywhere HOFFA goes Paul Dorfman is close by." [Robert F. Kennedy, *The Enemy Within*,



Harper Bros. 1960 NY] Paul Dorfman was forced into semi-retirement. In 1957 Paul "Red" Dorfman was forced to step down when the AFL became embarrassed by the information the McClellan Committee investigating organized crime's infiltration of the labor movement.

#### ALLEN DORFMAN



Allen Dorfman became JIMMY HOFFA's "rabbi." [NYT 8.24.67p6] When JIMMY HOFFA was indicted by a Nashville Grand Jury, Allen Dorfman and HOFFA-thug Robert "Barney" Baker helped him earn an acquittal. In early 1963 Allen Dorfman was indicted for jury-tampering in this case. The star witness for the United States Government was Edward Partin. [Sheridan, Walter, *The Fall and Rise of JIMMY HOFFA*, Saturday Review Press 1972; Allen Dorfman and the Teamsters, Prod. Wash. D.C.] In 1964 Allen Dorfman was indicted in Chicago on charges related to his management of Teamster Funds.

By 1967 Allen Dorfman was coordinator of the Teamster Union Pension Fund following the incarceration of JIMMY HOFFA. In 1969 Allen Dorfman was indicted by a Grand Jury in New York City. The chief witness for the United States Government in this case was also a witness against Meyer Lansky. [PROD, *The Teamster Connection*, bio. of Allen M. Dorfman; *Overdrive*, Crimes Web of Pension Fund Fraud; USDC-SDNY 66 CR. 732 - Memo From Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Office - Horvath - redirect 10433,

1333, ltr. from Lou Poller 5.30.71] In another case, Allen Dorfman and co-defendants were acquitted after a key government witness was killed in his office by shotgun blasts fired by gunmen wearing ski masks. [Newsweek, 11.24.75 p9] Allen Dorfman was convicted and sent to prison in 1972 for having taken a \$55,000 kickback to arrange a loan from the Teamster's Union Pension Fund. In 1979, Gerald Denono, a mafia hit man under federal protective custody, gave a diary to the FBI that he said he stole from Dr. Canale, a New Orleans physician linked to CARLOS MARCELLO. The entry dated January 5, 1973, read:

Fitz OK Al Dorfman chi ok.--Tony Pro Jersey ok (\$500,---to C.C. = nix OK.

This signified that a payment was made to NIXON through Charles Colson which had been okayed by Teamsters Allen Dorfman, Tony Provenzano and Frank Fitzsimmons. [NY Post 11.16.79] The name of Allen Dorfman surfaced in an off-shoot of the FBI's ABSCAM investigation. Allen Dorfman was involved in an attempt to bribe Senator Howard W. Cannon, (Dem.- Nevada) to sponsor favorable legislation. These charges were never proven because Allen Dorfman was gunned down gang-land style in Chicago.

After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, the Warren Commission received several reports that indicated an on-going relationship between RUBY and the Dorfman's. Justice Department investigator Walter Sheridan received information that RUBY had recently received money from one of the Dorfman's. Assistant United States Attorney Robert D. Peloquin was assigned to investigate the matter. Robert D. Peloquin, who at the time was part of United States Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's "Get HOFFA Squad," was called off the case by his boss, Herbert J. Miller. [FBI 44-24016-112,1247; 62-109060-1528] Herbert J. Miller informed Robert Peloquin that he had contacted the source of the information concerning RUBY and the Dorfman's, and the source had refused to substantiate the information. Herbert J. Miller ordered "no further inquiry in this matter" because "the story would give HOFFA an opportunity to criticize the Justice Department for trying to tie HOFFA in with President Kennedy's murder." J. Edgar Hoover agreed: "I do wish Justice Department would mind it's own business." [FBI DC-44-1639 BL-E-cover pg; FBI CG 44-645- DWS: pl6, cover page B] Peloquin stated that when he was Chief of the Organized Crime Strike Force of the DOJ Herbert Itkin was a paid employee on loan from CIA.

CLINT MURCHISON Sr.

On November 25, 1963, an individual who called himself "Mr. Miller" contacted the FBI and told the Bureau he was "a close friend of JACK RUBY." In addition, he identified Clint Murchison and Johnny Webb as being "friends of RUBY." When J. Edgar Hoover saw this anonymous report (the name Miller and the address given by the informant were determined to be fictitious) he ordered the Bureau to "Press vigorously. I would surmise it is Clint Murchison, Jr., not Sr. I think we should talk to Clint Murchison, Jr." [FBI 44-24016-197, 198; 62-109060-363; Wash. Post 2.14.64; Drew Pearson D13; FBI Memo 1.22.64 NR 2.6.64; FBI Memo and ltr. to WC 1.31.64 NR 2.6.64] J. Edgar Hoover



was close to the Murchison family and vacationed almost annually at their Del Charro Hotel, situated near the Murchison's Del Mar racetrack. [Messick, Hank, *John Edgar Hoover*, McKay , NY, 1972.] Clint Murchison Jr. told the FBI he never heard of RUBY or OSWALD before the events of November 1963. Tommy Webb told the FBI the same. In 1977 Tommy Webb signed an affidavit in which he admitted his association with Clint Murchison Jr. and Allen Dorfman. [Affidavit of Thomas Dougherty Webb Jr. 10.21.77] Edward Partin told Walter Sheridan that Clint Murchison Jr. was a "great benefactor" of JIMMY HOFFA's.

### "PIGFACE" COHEN

On November 27, 1963, Daniel Adario, Federal Bureau of Narcotics, Philadelphia, advised FBI S.A. Robert L. Tagg, Newark, that he had received information from a confidential informant that "(FNU) Cohen, aka, 'Pigface' operator of used car lots, and brother of Raymond Cohen, a former official of the Teamster's Union, Philadelphia, had told the informant of Daniel Adario that he was very friendly with JACK LEON RUBY and knows RUBY from Chicago. Cohen advised informant RUBY 'tied up with rackets in Chicago.'" Raymond Cohn was a close associate of James R. HOFFA. [FBI 44-24016-1069371] On June 8, 1965, the FBI reported:

Philadelphia Office has reviewed Xerox copies of anonymous letters naming RAYMOND COHEN as having information regarding assassination of President Kennedy, and Philadelphia has no information as to who might have written these letters. It is opinion of Philadelphia, also, that no useful purpose or productive information would be obtained through an interview with Raymound Cohen, former Secretary-Treasurer of Teamsters Local 107, Philadelphia. Cohen is presently serving a one to two year prison term for defrauding the Local, and has served six months of this sentence. There was much factional fighting in Local 107, which eventually deposed Cohen and any number of dissident teamsters on the opposite side to Cohen could have written the letters attempting to implicate Cohen. [FBI 157-916-319 Phil. 6.8.65]

Arlen Spector successfully prosecuted Raymond Cohen. The FBI reported:

Because of this success Attorney General Kennedy offered Spector a job on the Justice Department Staff to assist in the prosecution of James HOFFA and other Teamster officials. Spector declined because the local case against Cohen had been appealed to the Pennsylvania Superior Court, and he wished to see it through. That case was argued in September and the court's ruling is awaited. [FDBI CIA 62-109060-61 1.9.64. Phil.]

## OTIS PIKE

On November 25, 1963, the Houston FBI Office received information from Al Bright, an ex-felon of Corpus Christi, Texas, to the effect that RUBY was the payoff man for the Dallas Police Department, and whenever liquor and gambling raids were to be made on the Dallas underworld, RUBY was always contacted first by some unknown person from the Dallas Police Department. Al Bright obtained this information from Roy William Pike, who had once served as a bookkeeper for RUBY, and was one of 12 persons known to have been in telephone contact with RUBY just before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Roy William Pike was arrested for rape in 1943. Roy William Pike told Al Bright: "I think I spoke with RUBY about his relationship with HOFFA." The FBI interviewed Roy William Pike, who denied having said any of this. J. Edgar Hoover confused the report of Al Bright with that of Roy William Pike, and noted: "Pike was interviewed in connection with the case on November 25, 1963, at which time he alleged that RUBY was friendly with James HOFFA and the syndicate and was a payoff man of the Dallas Police Department." [FBI 44-24016-1196; FBI report filed 11.25.63 Corpus Christi; FBI #110-44-939 pgs.329, 530, 531, 532]

In 1941 JACK RUBENSTEIN distributed punch board gambling devices throughout the United States while serving as a courier for the syndicate. During this period he and his associates disrupted pro-Nazi German-American Bund rallies. [WCR 779-806] In September 1941 JACK RUBENSTEIN was drafted. JACK RUBENSTEIN never saw any action, and spent his military career in the United States. When the FBI questioned him in late November 1963 one of JACK RUBENSTEIN'S army buddies, Hersey Colvin, was employed by a Chicago hoodlum. [WCE 1201] He told the FBI that RUBY was not connected to organized crime. Another of JACK RUBENSTEIN'S army buddies, Urban Roschek, told the FBI that JACK RUBENSTEIN had offered him a job picking up numbers in Chicago. [FBI 44-1639-54444]



In February 1946 JACK RUBENSTEIN was discharged from the Army. He returned to Chicago where he lived with Hyman Rubenstein in the Congress Hotel. JACK RUBENSTEIN frequented the H & H Restaurant, a hang-out for bookmakers, gamblers and hoodlums. Its proprietor, Maishi Baer, got very upset when the FBI questioned him in 1964. He told the FBI that he "didn't want to get involved" then tried to unsuccessfully reach his attorney. [FBI 44-24016-275]

### PAUL ROLAND JONES

While JACK RUBENSTEIN was in the service, his sister Eva Rubenstein Grant moved to Dallas where she became associated with Paul Roland Jones. In 1930 Paul Roland Jones was arrested on a bootlegging charge in Kansas. In 1931 he began serving a life sentence in Lansing, Kansas, for the first degree murder of a government witness. On December 31, 1938, his life term was commuted by Kansas Governor Ratner to 20 years, and he was pardoned on July 8, 1940. Throughout the early 1940's, the offenses of Paul Roland Jones ranged from Vagrancy to OPA Violations. He was arrested in Dunkirk, N.Y. in 1944 for Grand Larceny, but no disposition of the case was shown in the records. He was later charged with swindling in Dallas, but the disposition of that case was also not shown. During the war, Paul Roland Jones and Eva Rubenstein opened up new territory for the mob. [HSCA V9 p986] Paul Roland Jones admitted that he had started gambling operations in Dallas in 1942 on behalf of Al Capone's cousins, the Fischetti brothers. [FBI LHM, Charlotte, North Carolina 6.29.64 copies destroyed 1.21.73]

Paul Roland Jones relied on bribery to keep the syndicate's gambling operations from being closed down. Paul Roland Jones had the Sheriff Smoot Schmid and various members of the Dallas Police Department "on the pad" for at least five years. Eva Rubenstein, who had purchased a building in Dallas and was opening a nightclub, introduced JACK RUBENSTEIN to Paul Roland Jones. Paul Roland Jones recalled this meeting: "It was in 1946, at the Congress Hotel in Chicago. I came up from Dallas to discuss business with Paul Labriola and JIMMY Weinberg. JACK RUBY'S sister arranged the meeting." Paul Roland Jones convinced RUBY to move to Dallas and manage a gambling joint there on behalf of the Chicago syndicate. There was one obstacle that had to be overcome: Steven Guthrie, the newly elected sheriff, who had come into office on a reform ticket had to go on the pad.

Four months after Sheriff Steven Guthrie took office (October 1946), Paul Roland Jones called Dallas Police Detective George Butler and asked him to arrange a meeting with Sheriff Guthrie. Sheriff Guthrie and Detective George Butler made recordings of their meeting with Paul Roland Jones. Sheriff Guthrie: "Shortly after my election, Jones contacted me and asked if I wanted to make some big money. At the time gambling, prostitution were wide-open in Dallas, and there were three gangland murders each month. I knew the syndicate had moved in because there were always at least 25 Chicago thugs in town. I was determined to get them." [WCE 1251] Sheriff Guthrie installed a hidden movie camera and photographed Paul Roland Jones entering and leaving the meeting. Paul Roland Jones reported his apparent success to Anthony

Accardo, who sent Paul "Needlenose" Labriola and (FNU) Weinberg to Dallas. Paul Roland Jones introduced Sheriff Guthrie to Pat Manno, a friend of Anthony Accardo. On November 14, 1946, Paul Roland Jones called Detective George Butler and told him he was going to Chicago, where the syndicate was meeting for the purpose of formulating plans for moving into gambling activities in Dallas. In December 1946, Detective George Butler visited Paul Roland Jones and introduced two men identified as Murray Humphreys and Jake Guzik, both Capone-gang members.

In 1964 Sheriff Steve Guthrie told the FBI:

JACK RUBY was a small peanut with this group that tried to bribe me. His name came up on numerous occasions as being the person who would take over a fabulous restaurant and turn it into a posh gambling joint.

Jack Wilner, a crime reporter for *The Chicago Daily News* stated that RUBY was involved in an effort to take over gambling in the Texas area at this time. [HSCA V19 par. 1131] Another reporter for the *Chicago Daily News* stated that Detective George Butler told him RUBY was involved in an attempt to bribe Sheriff Guthrie.

The HSCA obtained the original recordings of the Jones-Guthrie-Butler meetings. The original recordings were of such poor quality it was impossible for the Committee to determine if JACK RUBENSTEIN'S name came up. Two recordings were missing. The HSCA was unable to interview former Sheriff Steven Guthrie. Just before Christmas, 1946, Paul Roland Jones and his associate, Jack Nappi, were indicted on Bribery charges. Jack Nappi was related to Frank Nitti, Al Capone's enforcer. In early 1947 Paul Roland Jones was convicted on the bribery charge, then released on appeal bond.

In October 1947, Homer R. Padgett, a former manager of Eva Rubenstein's Singapore Club, told Detective Butler Eva Rubenstein had him beaten him when he tried to overhear one of her conversations. JACK RUBENSTEIN called Homer R. Padgett a stool pigeon. Detective George Butler investigated the Singapore Club and examined its toll records. [HSCA V9 para. 1131] The HSCA questioned Eva Rubenstein about the allegations of Homer R. Padgett. She recalled that when her club first opened, two Dallas Police Department officers asked her questions about having known Al Capone and about gangsters from Chicago who visited her club. When Detective George Butler was questioned by the HSCA he told them that "From 1947 to 1948 some members of the Capone organization were trying to move gambling into Dallas. I had a snitch in the outfit, Paul Roland Jones, who told me the Capone outfit considered RUBY too erratic for them." Detective George Butler told the HSCA that Paul Roland Jones was a snitch. If so, why did he do time?

## HEROIN SMUGGLING

Meyer Lansky, as he had promised, secured the release of "Lucky" Luciano from prison by collaborating with Charles Siragusa and the OSS to stop Axis sabotage in America's sea ports during World War II. This was OPERATION UNDERWORLD. "Lucky" Luciano

was released from prison in 1946 and immediately deported to Italy. "Lucky" Luciano charged Meyer Lansky with the responsibility for managing his financial empire. Meyer Lansky played a key role in organizing the heroin syndicate of "Lucky" Luciano. The relationship of Meyer Lansky with the TRAFFICANTE family was of particular importance. In 1947 Meyer Lansky and "Lucky" Luciano had a meeting in Cuba about expanding the mob's heroin trade. In 1947 Paul Roland Jones was involved in the narcotics trade, which experienced a post-war renaissance.

#### JOHN AND MAURICE MELTON

The narcotics operation of Paul Roland Jones involved John and Maurice Melton, two brothers who owned 127,000 acres of land near Durango, Mexico, suitable for the cultivation of opium. The opium was grown there and was flown into the United States by pilot Taylor Crossland. [FBI report filed 12.14.63 at Albuquerque, New Mexico #AQ 44-391] In August 1947 the Federal Bureau of Narcotics became aware of the operation. Maurice Melton and Paul Roland Jones were put under 24-hour surveillance and their telephone calls were monitored:

Prior to arrest above Subjects were surveilled during course of investigation and they checked into the Central Plaza Hotel on August 2, 1947. While at this hotel they made several phone calls which were checked out and the number Kedzie-1717 was listed to Hyman and JACK RUBENSTEIN. [Bureau of Narcotics Report, Chicago 10.31.47 A.E. Aman; FBI #44-24016-586; FBI 44-1639-21, Dallas]

On August 27, 1947, Taylor Crossland was forced down, and arrested at the Mexican-American border with 48 pounds of raw opium worth nearly one million dollars in his aircraft. Taylor Crossland told the FBI that when he and Maurice Melton brought a load of opium from Mexico to Dallas he contacted Paul Roland Jones in an effort to dispose of the opium. He "stated Paul Roland Jones took him to an unknown motel, where Jones introduced an individual whom he believes possibly identical to RUBY as RUBENSTEIN. States Jones and RUBENSTEIN went back into motel, stayed approximately five minutes, and then Jones returned to automobile and said 'We will have to go to Chicago to dispose of this stuff' and no further reference was made to an individual believed to be JACK RUBENSTEIN." [FBI 44-1639-1629; WCE 1271, 1272, 1273; FBI 44-24016-481]





Taylor Crossland became a States witness against Paul Roland Jones, as did the Melton brothers. On October 24, 1947, Paul Roland Jones was arrested in Dallas. Five days later, the Chicago office of the Bureau of Narcotics questioned JACK RUBENSTEIN and his brother. JACK RUBENSTEIN said he knew Paul Roland Jones through his sister, Eva Rubenstein Grant, who met Paul Roland Jones while operating her supper club in Dallas. JACK RUBENSTEIN claimed he had never spoken to Paul Roland Jones in Chicago, either personally or by phone. When the calls in question occurred (August 2, 1947 and August 3, 1947) JACK RUBENSTEIN said he was visiting Dallas. JACK RUBENSTEIN said he was a sales promoter and merchandise distributor and he knew nothing about narcotics. Hyman Rubenstein admitted having known Taylor Crossland, Maurice Melton and Paul Roland Jones and told the Bureau of Narcotics investigators that the telephone call in question had been made to him. He admitted meeting with them, but insisted

I know absolutely nothing about opium, or narcotics in any shape, manner or form, nor the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs. Paul Roland Jones never mentioned opium to me nor did Taylor Crossland or Maurice Melton. I'm a business man with no arrests. We were involved in selling lumber and pipe. They gave me a sample of lumber which I showed around Chicago.

During the trial, Maurice Melton testified that when Hyman and Jack Rubenstein were propositioned regarding narcotics, they refused any part in it. [FBI 44-24016-395]

The Melton's had been told by Paul Roland Jones that the Rubenstein family had connections with the Chicago crime syndicate, who would offer them the best price for the opium. The deal never went through. The Melton brothers were afraid to testify against Rubenstein because they knew he was connected to the Syndicate and they didn't want to end up dead.

On January 10, 1948, Hyman Rubenstein appeared as a witness in the narcotics trial of Paul Roland Jones in Dallas. Eleven months later, the Bureau of Narcotics closed the JACK RUBENSTEIN file, but seven years later, in 1955, the Bureau reopened it. The original file released by the Justice Department in unexcised form (over the objection of the Drug Enforcement Administration - the heirs to Bureau of Narcotics files) had the following in a box labeled "Related Files": "SE-202 Mafia pages 234 and 240." When this researcher applied for these files Benjamin R. Civiletti informed him that the materials were not of "historical interest" because "even today, the materials remain substantially related to continuing investigations...I do want you to know that no reference to JACK RUBY has been discovered in the materials which are the subject of this appeal." [Ltr. Office of Deputy Attorney General 5.8.78 re: DEA/FOIA/Req#77-492-F]

After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy RUBY did not deny that he was in touch with Paul Roland Jones in Chicago. Paul Roland Jones admitted he was a member of the syndicate during this period. In late January 1948, Paul Roland Jones, who was described as a "Dangerous Public Enemy" by the FBI, was convicted of Conspiracy to Import Narcotics and sentenced to three years in prison. An additional two years were added when his appeal on the bribery charges was denied. Released in 1952 Paul Roland Jones returned to Dallas and managed several taverns for the syndicate. In 1953 Paul Roland Jones was involved in the sale of worthless uranium stock. By 1960 he had become connected with a phony cancer clinic. Paul Roland Jones lived in Birmingham, Alabama, but made frequent trips to Dallas.

In December 1947 JACK RUBENSTEIN changed his name to JACK RUBY. In early 1948, when Paul Roland Jones went to prison, RUBY moved to Dallas. After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy RUBY admitted he "came to Dallas because of connections with the Chicago crime syndicate." [WC Ltr. Hoover to Rankin 6.2.64] Later in 1948 Eva Rubenstein moved to California and RUBY took responsibility for the management of The Silver Spur Club.

#### LEWIS J. McWILLIE



RUBY contacted Lewis J. McWillie who helped manage the gambling interests of the syndicate in Dallas. Lewis J. McWillie was born at Kansas City, Missouri, May 4, 1908. At age 16 he was arrested for stealing a car and sentenced to two years at a boys reformatory. Lewis J. McWillie became a professional gambler, who worked river boats up and down the Mississippi. The FBI described him as a "murderer." [FBI PX-44216 12.5.63] In 1942 he worked for Benny Bickers, and Benny "the Cowboy" Binion, at the Top of the Hill Casino, located just outside the Dallas City limits. [HSCA V9 para. 1153; Lt. Butler, Kefauver Committee test; WCE1692; WCD 686d] Benny Binion had controlled gambling in Dallas ever since his rival was executed in gangland fashion. Benny Binion had been arrested for murder and possession of a sawed-off shotgun. Benny Binion left Dallas in 1948 and moved to Las Vegas where he became associated with West Coast mob figures Mickey

Cohen and Jack Dragna. Jack Dragna was frequently referred to as the Al Capone of Los Angeles and was closely associated with Johnny Rosselli. In 1951 the State of Nevada granted Binion a gaming license, and he became a casino operator. [Reed, Ed, Ovid Demaris, *The Green Felt Jungle*, Trident Press, NY, 1963 pgs. 66, 84, 104, 184]

#### McWILLIE AND BENNY BINION



In 1978 Lewis J. McWillie was questioned about his association with Benny Binion and any possible connection between gambling in Las Vegas and Dallas.

Q. Did you know Benny Binion in 1947?

A. Knew him to see him.

Q. Who did you work for in the 1940's?

A. I worked for Ivy Miller and Red Scarborough.

Q. Did you know that Miller and Scarborough worked for Benny Binion in a numbers operation?

A. No I didn't.

Q. Did you know Harry Urban?

A. Didn't know him intimately. I knew him to speak to him.

Q. Did you know he was a partner of Benny Binion?

A. No.

Q. Prior to your present employment (in 1978), where did you work?

A. Binion's Horse Shoe Club in Las Vegas. [HSCA V5 pgs. 2, 22, 57, 65]

## RUBY AND MARCELLO

RUBY was associated with the MARCELLO family soldiers, or capos, in Dallas. These men included R. D. Matthews (born July 26, 1920, in Aspermont, Texas), Joe Civello, (born January 2, 1902; died January 1970), Joe Campisi (born October 11, 1918, Dallas), and Sam Campisi (born May 19, 1938), and Ralph Paul (born December 17, 1899, Kiev, Russia).

### R.D. MATTHEWS



Lewis J. McWillie introduced RUBY to Russell Douglas Matthews. When R.D. Matthews was seven he moved to Dallas. He served in the Marine Corps from December 1941 to October 1945, after which he returned to Dallas. [HSCA V9 par 1054] By the late 1940's R.D. Matthews was actively engaged in criminal activity in Dallas. He was described in one FBI report as a burglar, armed robber, narcotics pusher and murderer. Another described him as armed and dangerous, and stated that he had been known to carry firearms and to use explosives in the past. In 1949 R.D. Matthews was arrested for burglary and in 1950 for having violated the Federal Narcotics Act.

### RALPH PAUL

Ralph Paul was most closely associated with RUBY. An employee of the Carousel Club testified: "If anybody gave JACK money, he would probably got it from Paul. He was a silent partner who passed on to him some of that cash." [HSCA V9p242] Ralph Paul, a Russian-Jewish immigrant whose name was Ralph Bielapolski, came to Dallas in 1947 from the South Bronx where he owned a fruit stand. Ralph Paul told the FBI that he had worked 16 hours a day for 25 years at this stand for very low wages. Yet when he came to Dallas he had amassed a considerable amount of capital; enough to purchase several nightclubs. [WCD 4 p466; HSCA V9 para. 1271] CARLOS MARCELLO was in the tomato growing and marketing business when Ralph Paul owned a fruit stand. CARLOS MARCELLO needed frontmen to invest his illegal earnings in legitimate businesses. The brother of Ralph Paul, Louis Paul, was President of the Pleasant Finance Company of Lodi, New Jersey. Frank Laduca was the manager of Pleasant Finance. [FBI tel from Newark #44-443 to Dallas 6.3.64] In 1952 RUBY took Ralph Paul on as a silent partner. By 1952 the MARCELLO family had gained control of organized crime in Dallas.

## THE CAMPISIS



JOE CAMPISI DRINKS ON THE HOUSE



Ralph Paul was a partner of Joseph Campisi. [FBI report filed 11.24.63 Dallas, DC 44-1639, Lee and R.M. Barrett] Joseph Campisi attended high school with R.D. Matthews. In 1944 Joe Campisi was arrested for a murder that involved the shooting of an employee of Campisi's, who allegedly drew a knife on him. A Dallas County Grand Jury believed Joe Campisi had acted in self-defense. In 1947 Joe Campisi and his brother Sam Campisi bought the Idle Hour Bar in Dallas. This was the year the Campisis first met RUBY. In 1957 the Campisi brothers bought the Egyptian Lounge from John Grizzaffi; an associate of RUBY'S. John Grizzaffi, a native of Dallas, was mentioned in the Jones-Butler tapes. Employees of the Egyptian Lounge included men like Peter Piccola, who was known to the FBI as a bookmaker. [FBI 44-1639 FD-302 with P J Piccola 4.24.63 Dallas, Lee & Barrett] Other associates RUBY and Joe Campisi had in common included Lewis J. McWillie, Benny Binion and James R. Todd. [HSCA V5 para. 908] The FBI reported:

On February 17, 1959, Special Agents Robert M. Barrett and Milton L. Newsom and Charles T. Brown, Jr. observed Dallas police character and

known gambler Russell Douglas Matthews at the Egyptian Lounge, which is owned and operated by Joe and Sam Campisi. The connection between Matthews and the Campisis was not known.

On May 14, 1959, Special Agents Robert M. Barrett and Jesse Hagy observed Dallas-Fort Worth gambler Al Meadows at the Egyptian Lounge. On August 18, 1959, Special Agent Robert M. Barret observed Joe Ianni and his family at the Egyptian Lounge. Ianni was observed in conversation with Joe Campisi and Frank La Coco. A newspaper article in *The Dallas Morning News* on November 23, 1959, stated that suspected mafia adherent Charles Vincent Saterino, FBI No. 497185, had died on November 21, 1959. Among the pallbearers were Charles Civello, brother of Joseph Francis Civello, John Ross Patrono and Joe and Sam Campisi. These same individuals attended the funeral of the father of Pete Piccola during the same week. On November 22, 1961, while contacting Sam Campisi on another matter, Special Agent (Deleted) observed (Deleted) enter the Egyptian Restaurant and engage in what appeared to be a guarded conversation with (Deleted). He left shortly thereafter.

On March 27, 1962, Special Agents (Deleted) and (Deleted) observed Joseph Francis Civello at the Egyptian Lounge apparently waiting for an order of pizza to be filled. The recent robbery of Sam Campisi was discussed with Civello.

On January 31, 1963, Special Agents Barrett and Ivan D. Lee observed known Dallas gamblers Jesse Ray McPherson, Gerald Francis Burch and John Benton Turns in the Egyptian Lounge in contact with Joe Campisi.

On August 7, 1963, Lieutenant Jack Revill, Intelligence Unit, Dallas Police Department advised Special Agent Charles T. Brown Jr. that numerous known bookmakers and dice hustlers frequent the Egyptian Lounge on a daily basis.

Lieutenant Revill advised SA Barret on December 17, 1964 that recent information had been received that Campisi was a close associate of gambler Frank James Tortoriello, Dallas Police Department number 5036 as well as Riley B. Bawcum, gambler and bookmaker. Revill further advised no information had been received from any reliable source that the Campisis were involved at present or in the recent past in any illegal activity.

Lieutenant REVILL continued that information had been received to the effect that JOE CAMPISI had been severely reprimanded by his brother, SAM, to cease any bookmaking activity as it would jeopardize their business. Lieutenant REVILL further advised SA BARRETT on January 17, 1966 that numerous Dallas area gamblers have been observed at

various times at the Egyptian Restaurant. He identified these individuals as JOHN BENTON TURNS, BOBBY JOE CHAPMAN, and AL MEADOWS. Lieutenant REVILL stated that JOE CAMPISI's reputation as a "loud mouth" prevents him from being trusted by gamblers, bookmakers, or underworld associates.

DL T-3 advised SA BARDWELL D. ODUM on October 13, 1966 that CHARLIE MC MATT operates a football betting operation in East Dallas, operating out of the Crown Bar on Columbia Avenue. MC MATT reportedly talks considerably about TONY CATHERINE and SAM and JOE CAMPISI, it being indicated that BOBBY JOE CHAPMAN is connected in some manner with the CAMPISIs.

DL 1-3 further advised that JOHN ROSS PATRONO and JOHNNY GRISSAFFI are attempting to obtain financial backlog from the CAMPISIs for some kind of deal, details not known. He further advised that the CAMPISIs have a bartender at the Egyptian Restaurant who is a "square". Waitresses include RUBY LEE, the daughter-in-law of BOB LEE, Falstaff distributor for the City of Dallas. She is married to BOBBY LEE, a vice president at Falstaff Distributing Company.

#### D. CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

SAM CAMPISI is not known to be engaging in criminal activities.

DL T-4 advised SA THOMAS M. O'MALLEY on April 25, 1961 that JOE and SAM CAMPISI take bets at the Egyptian Lounge, 5610 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. On October 30, 1961, Lieutenant JACK REVILL, Intelligence Unit, Dallas Police Department, advised SA CARL X. UNDERHILL that for a period of at least ten years, information has been received that the CAMPISIs were operating a book and that prostitutes were allowed to operate from the Egyptian Lounge, but that officers of the Vice Detail had disproved these allegations and that while JOE CAMPISI is well acquainted with known gamblers and other such persons in and out of the Italian element of Dallas, they had been unable to substantiate any allegation that any bookmaking or prostitution activities were being engaged in by the CAMPISIs.

On November 21, 1961, Lieutenant REVILL advised SA ROBERT N. BARRETT that he had received information from a source close to JOE CAMPISI that CAMPISI was nervous because of a recent interview by Agents of the FBI in connection with an investigation of his activities and the activities of some of his associates and other Italian gamblers in Dallas. JOE CAMPISI allegedly advised this source that he and his associates were accepting no more bets during the football season and that it was believed things would cool down by the time the basketball



season was underway. This source reportedly advised Lieutenant Revill that SAM CAMPISI had advised his brother, JOE, that they were making "good money" through the restaurant and that he, JOE CAMPISI, was not going to risk this by gambling. SAM CAMPISI allegedly stated he was not going to participate in any future gambling activities whatsoever and suggested that JOE do the same

DL-T-5 advised SA IVAN D. LEE on July 25, 1963 that JOE and SAM CAMPISI had been discussing the possibility of moving the "Italian syndicate" into Dallas to take over the gambling and DL T-2 advised that although his information was reliable, that knowing Joe Campisi like to hear himself talk, it is probably just talk. [FBI Dallas 12-7792-2]

In 1967 a friend of Joe Campisi estimated that each brother netted \$100,000 per year from their restaurant business. That year the Campisis aided the promotion in Dallas of gambling junkets sponsored by the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas. From January 1967 to the day he died on December 23, 1970, Campisi was the subject of a FBI Anti-Racketeering Investigation. On April 4, 1968, the FBI in Dallas requested permission to review the Campisis telephone toll records based on their associate with Joseph Civello. In 1970 an FBI report related an assertion of an informant that Joe Campisi was close with both State judges and members of the Dallas County District Attorney's office. He allegedly had contacts within the Dallas Police Department. Joe Campisi was linked with both gambling and bookmaking activities in the Dallas area, but had never been arrested for any gambling activities. Joe Campisi's technical characterization in Federal law enforcement records was an organized crime member whose affiliation had, at one point, been termed: 'Definite.'" In the 1970's the MARCELLOS often appeared at Campisi family affairs. [Earl Golz, MARCELLO in Dallas, *Iconoclast* 11.21.76; Mike Graugnard, MARCELLO, *Iconoclast* 10.15, 29, 1976, 11.5.76] Sam Campisi died on December 23, 1970. The FBI recorded the license numbers of all out of state cars attending his funeral. [FBI 92-9792-25] It concluded: "A review of the list of registrations obtained from cars attending subject's funeral reflected the following individuals, members of a local group who allegedly control organized crime in the Dallas area, were noted and were personally observed being present at the Subject's funeral."

#### JOE CIVELLO



The MARCELLO family made an alliance with Dallas mafia boss Joseph Francis Civello, whom MARCELLO knew from Baton Rouge. In 1938 Civello served four years of a 15 year federal prison sentence for having participated in a heroin and cocaine distribution conspiracy that reached from Dallas, to New Orleans, to Chicago. In late 1962 the Immigration and Naturalization Service began proceedings to deport Joseph Francis Civello. The FBI: "The Campisi's are members of a small group of aliens in Dallas closely associated with Civello, deceased, former LCN leader in Dallas. The subject and

brother operate the Egyptian Restaurant, 5610 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. In addition to the above association, the subjects have been connected with gambling activities in Dallas." [FBI DL 92-9792 9.22.70]

#### LEWIS J. MCWILLIE, THE CAMPISIS, AND THE CIVELLOS

The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about his, and RUBY'S, connection to the Campisis and the Civellos:

Q. Did you know Joe Civello?

A. I knew him, yes. I didn't know him intimately but I knew him to speak to him.

Q. Did RUBY know him?

A. No. I don't think he knew him.

Q. Did JACK RUBY know Joe or Sam Campisi?

A. I'm sure he did.

Q. Do you recall having dinner with JACK RUBY and the Campisis in 1954 or 1955?

A. I don't recall but its possible.

Q. Do you know of any business dealings between RUBY and the Campisis?

A. No. they would have no business dealings with JACK RUBY. [HSCA V3p73, V9 para.1153]

#### THE CAMPISIS AND THE CIVELLOS

When Joe Campisi was questioned by the HSCA he admitted a close connection to Joseph Francis Civello:

I knew the whole Civello family, I had known them all of my life...They owned Civello's Liquor Store, and they had imported foods like pastas and cheese...and at that time we started buying provolone cheese from them...we were just like kinfolds, you know. Just like we are, real close friends, like being cousins, you know.

Q. Did you ever discuss with Joe Civello the fact of his having been arrested at Appalachia?

A. Never have. [HSCA V9 para. 1153]



RUBY CIRCA 1957  
APALACHIN

In November 1957 a meeting of the commission took place in Apalachin, N.Y. A FBI informant reported that purpose of this meeting was to

Cardello told the Agents the from Malito and other sources he could not recall he had been told that the purpose of instant meeting was for the members at the meeting to contribute money to back Fidel Castro and help Castro overthrow Batista. Cardello said that apparently Batista did not let the Italian racket element get into gambling or wanted too large a share of the profits from the gambling operation. Castro, according to Cardello, was being used as a tool to sway Batista's opinion. He said that when the Italian racket element was entrenched in Cuba, they would take over all gambling operations. Cardello did not believe that Castro had knowledge as to why the Italian racket element was backing him, and also, based on recent news articles, that Castro had gotten out of hand. [FBI PH 92-444 12.58 - Bruno's FBI File]

#### JOSEPH LOCURTO

In 1953 RUBY obtained an interest in a third nightclub, the Vegas Club. His partner in this venture was Joe Locurto. An FBI report filed in 1953 revealed: "RUBY and Joe Locurto always carried concealed pistols and were in constant association with Jack

Todd, a well known Dallas hoodlum." In July 1953 Joe Locurto was convicted of having violated the White Slave Act and having committed unnatural sexual acts. The RUBY/Locurto partnership ended when Locurto went to prison. [FBI 287527 information concerning memo 6.11.64 JWH/jh/cac. NR 6.19.64; FBI pre-1963 traces on RUBY Item 3] From 1953 to 1955 the Vegas Club was managed by Ken McDermitt. Ken McDermitt later became "State Supervisor of the Arizona State Bureau of Identification."

## JACK TODD

James Robert Todd (born December 10, 1919, Groesbeck, Texas), was described as "knowing CARLOS MARCELLO on a first name basis." During World War II James Robert Todd was employed by North American Aviation. In 1948 Jack Todd became part of the Hollis Green Gang which specialized in burglaries of pharmaceutical houses and large drug-stores for narcotics and cash. [HSCA V9 para. 1324, 1054] Jack Todd worked closely with R.D. Matthews at this time. The son of Jack Todd, Gerald Todd, was involved in a shootout with Joe Campisi in 1973. The two business partners had a falling out. The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about RUBY'S association with Jack Todd:

Q. Did JACK RUBY know Jack Todd?

A. I'm sure he did.

Q. Did you know Todd?

A. Jack Todd, I knew him...To tell you the truth, I don't know what Jack Todd did. He was in Cuba, too, just came over visiting. I saw him once or twice. [HSCA McW Dep.]

The HSCA also questioned Campisi about Todd:

Q. Do you know Jack Todd?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And how long have you known Mr. Todd?

A. Oh, ever since we were 15, 16 years old.

Q. What business, if any, have you had with Todd?

A. No business, none.

## THE DALLAS MOB

Both Jack Todd and R.D. Matthews were questioned by the HSCA. Both admitted knowing the Campisis, Johnny Grizzaffi, the Civellos, and RUBY. They shared common gambling connections that included bookmakers Benny Binion and John Eli Stone. R.D. Matthews admitted having known "Izzy" Miller, the former employer of Lewis McWillie, while Jack Todd admitted knowing Paul Roland Jones and Joe Locurto. [HSCA Depo see V9p126 index]

## AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS

In August 1953 an FBI agent witnessed RUBY threaten the Branch Manager of the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA). RUBY said he would kill the man if he didn't stop asking him to pay his entertainers in advance. The AGVA representative explained that he had been pistol whipped by Joe Locurto, and he heard that RUBY was a hoodlum who had experienced financial difficulties because of the Kefauver investigation.

## JAMES HENRY DOLAN, MARCELLO AND TRAFFICANTE



By 1958 the Dallas mob controlled AGVA. James Henry Dolan, an associate of CARLOS MARCELLO and TRAFFICANTE, became a top AGVA official. [HSCA V9 para 924] James Henry Dolan was discharged from the Army in 1945. In 1951 James Henry Dolan was arrested and convicted for impersonating an Internal Revenue Service agent. In 1952 James Henry Dolan violated his probation when he rigged a poker game in Denver, Colorado. In 1953 James Henry Dolan was sent to federal prison where he remained until 1956. From 1958 to 1961 James Henry Dolan was employed by AGVA. An FBI report stated:

In late 1960 or 1961, George Fuqua and James Henry Dolan were introduced to SANTOS TRAFFICANTE JR., through TRAFFICANTE'S associate, Milo Bell. The purpose of the contact was to ascertain if Milo Bell and TRAFFICANTE could use James Henry Dolan and George Fuqua in the collection business, or as enforcers for TRAFFICANTE. TRAFFICANTE allegedly told these two Dallas people that he wanted a 'bolito man knocked-off and roughed-up as this man was holding out on his collections and owed TRAFFICANTE some money'...Dolan and Fuqua subsequently 'knocked off' this man and got about \$7,000." In February 1961 James Henry Dolan was arrested in Dallas for breaking into a pay telephone. James Henry Dolan had placed a call to Milo Bell. In March 1963 it was learned that James Henry Dolan had been on a trip to New Orleans and had spoken to "CARLOS" (last name unknown, possibly MARCELLO), a "big time New Orleans hoodlum.



On May 10, 1963, James Henry Dolan was stopped by the New Orleans police, and was found to be in the company of Dimitry Sack, who frequented the Town and Country Restaurant, which was owned by Joseph A. Poretto. James Henry Dolan was also associated with R.D. Matthews, a frequent visitor to his AGVA office. On May 29, 1963, Dallas Police Intelligence advised that James Henry Dolan was in contact with R.D. Matthews, allegedly having discussed the need for \$2,000 to gain the release of their associate, George Fuqua. A 1964 investigation of telephone calls made by James Henry Dolan indicated a call was made to the American Bonding Agency in Chicago, which was operated by mobster Irwin Weiner. A 1964 FBI report listed Nofio Pecora as a known associate of James Henry Dolan's. Another FBI report placed the partner of James Henry Dolan, George Fuqua, at a restaurant located across the street from the Tropical Tourist Courts Trailer Park.

#### DOLAN AND RUBY

When the FBI interviewed James Henry Dolan circa December 1963, he stated he had known RUBY since 1957 and had seen him quite often when he worked for AGVA.

According to the HSCA, in 1953 RUBY was a confidential source for Kefauver Committee investigators. [HSCA V9 para. 11208] RUBY was not mentioned during the Kefauver investigation, and this researcher was unable to locate any paperwork that substantiated this. In 1953 Senator Estes Kefauver named CARLOS MARCELLO as the boss of the Louisiana mafia. As a result, the Immigration and Naturalization Service issued an order of deportation against CARLOS MARCELLO. It cost MARCELLO a million dollars in legal fees to fight this order. In 1956 the first of MARCELLO'S deportation hearings began. MARCELLO'S strategy involved pay-offs to members of the Italian Parliament so that Italy would not accept him should he be deported. This international bribery brought CARLOS MARCELLO to the attention of the CIA, which was also funneling money to Italian politicians.

## HARRY HALL

Throughout 1953 RUBY was involved in gambling activities and confidence games. His partner was Harry Hall. Harry Hall, (Harry Schwartz), was described as a big-time swindler associated with Johnny Rosselli. Harry Hall's uncle, Marty Schwartz, was a dealer at the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas. Andrew Armstrong, the janitor at the Carousel Club, stated:

JACK would tell me stories about Marty Schwartz when Marty and he did this or he and Marty did that...about things that happened in Chicago." [HSCA V9 para. 886] On December 11, 1963, the FBI interviewed Harry Hall. He told them that he had known RUBY from childhood, since he had been raised in the same neighborhood in Chicago. Harry Hall claimed he had not seen RUBY for eight years and to his knowledge, RUBY had never visited Las Vegas. The FBI marked this document "no leads."

RUBY'S close friend, Alex Gruber, told the HSCA that Barney Ross had introduced him to Harry Hall in Chicago then he ran into him at several sporting events. Alex Gruber maintained he did not know that Harry Hall was connected with RUBY. [HSCA V9 p485; FBI 44-1639-1841, 2125; USSS File #4,3-601.0 - 454; FBI 105-82555- NR. 12.11.63; FBI # Los Angeles-44-895-WJN; mjg; HSCA V9 p251]

In Dallas, Harry Hall joined the Petroleum Club where he fleeced oil barons Clint Murchison, Sr., and H. L. Hunt. The FBI discounted the information supplied by Harry Hall about having worked with RUBY, despite the fact that Harry Hall was an FBI and Treasury Department informant who had provided the Treasury Department with reliable information in the past. Harry Hall wanted to trade his information for release from Federal prison where he was incarcerated for fraud.

In 1978 the HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about Harry Hall:

Q. Who were some of the oil men who gambled at the Top of the Hill?

A. Billy Byers, he played out there. Big oilmen, H.L. Hunt, he played out there.

Q. Did you know Harry Hall?

A. I knew a dealer years and years ago by the name of Harry Hall. Hell, he's been dead 30, 40 years.

## ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA

RUBY traveled to Israel in 1955. While visiting "known racketeers and gamblers" in San Francisco that year he told Harry Hall: "After I leave here I'm going to Florida to buy a load of contraband (arms) to send to Israel." RUBY'S notebook contained the phone



number TE-8-7475. This number belonged to A. Snyman of New York City. The NY FBI attempted to contact A. Snyman by telephone, and personal visit, for several days without success. The agents went to her apartment and knocked on her door. As they were leaving A. Snyman appeared in the lobby. She told them that she had diplomatic immunity, and they should contact her through Ambassador M. I. Botha of the South African Mission to the United Nations. Had RUBY been involved in an arms deal between Israel and South Africa? The FBI determined the number in question was JE-8-7475 rather than TE-8-7475. The Warren Commission re-examined the entry and determined it was TE-3-7475. This number was "possibly identified with a Fort Worth resident, Carl M. Applewhite, a cousin of well know singer and nightclub operator, Charles M. Applewhite." [FBI 44-24016-1550] Charles M. Applewhite's name appeared in RUBY'S telephone book.

### JAMES ECKFORD BREEN

James Breen, (born January 4, 1928), was arrested in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1942 and 1943. He became a welder's helper around this time. James Breen was arrested in 1944 in San Francisco, when he was 16. He was charged with illegally wearing a Navy jacket and cap. James Breen enlisted in the Army in 1947, but went AWOL a year later. In 1952 he was arrested for marijuana. In 1954 he was in Seagoville Federal Correctional Institute, and in 1955 he was arrested in Los Angeles on suspected narcotics act violations. In December 1955, the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics attempted to locate James Breen and Eileen Curry with a view in mind of possibly using these individuals in connection with a narcotics investigation, then in progress. The Federal Bureau of Narcotics could not locate them. James Breen was arrested in Long Beach, California, in December 1956. In March 1957 he was arrested in Signal Hill, California. In December 1959 James Breen was charged with auto theft and in 1961 he was charged with running a house of prostitution in Los Angeles. In 1962 James Breen was suspected of cultivating marijuana. He was arrested again May 29, 1962 in Anaheim, California. He was arrested March 9, 1963, in Los Angeles, and on March 28, 1963. The FBI "Breen was former FUDE, Los Angeles origin." In March 1967 Breen was convicted of interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle. [<http://www.altlaw.org/v1/cases/1541721>]

## EILEEN ELLIS CURRY



In 1940 Eileen Curry was sent to the Ventura School for girls for five years. In 1943 Eileen Curry went to work for the War Department but by 1947 she was in the Oregon State Penitentiary. She was released in 1949. In 1951 Eileen Curry was arrested for lewd vagrancy. Curry was arrested for vagrancy on June 23, 1956 in Dallas. Eileen Curry was "lodged in a motel frequented by colored patrons...where she plied her trade as a prostitute." On October 18, 1956, she was arrested in Louisville, Kentucky. On October 30, 1956, Eileen Curry was charged with passing a bad check in Indianapolis, Indiana. She pleaded guilty and served one month in jail. She was arrested on January 3, 1957, in Cleveland, Ohio. She was arrested on December 13, 1958. On May 16, 1959, Eileen Curry was sent to prison in Ohio for prostitution. She told authorities there that "she started prostitution at an early age and has known no other measure of making a living, nor has she any intention of changing her behavior pattern." She was released on March 19, 1960. She was arrested on November 7, 1960, in Cleveland. She was arrested on August 7, 1961, and on September 29, 1961, in Cleveland. That year Assistant United States Attorney Burt W. Griffin indicted her for violations of the White Slavery Act. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two years in prison beginning on October 25, 1961.

## RUBY AND CURRY AND BREEN

After November 22, 1963, the Los Angeles Field Office of the FBI located a reference to JACK RUBY, James Breen and Eileen Curry in its files. Titled "James Breen, Miscellaneous Information Concerning" the file related that on March 18, 1956, Eileen Curry requested that the Los Angeles FBI Office have S.A. Ambrose K. Law call her collect at Dallas, Texas. The rest of the text read:

She had been interviewed twice for information she might furnish in the case entitled 'Unknown Subject, Abraham Davidian - Victim. Obstruction of Justice.' She was acting, as was James Breen, as an informant for the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Los Angeles Police Department Vice Squad. She indicated she had formerly been with Stanley Adams, a Subject in this case. Bunny at that time was operating a house of prostitution in Los Angeles on a call girl basis. She furnished no information of particular significance. James Breen was interviewed two or three times as a possible Potential Criminal Informant, but both were constantly in trouble with local authorities and contact could not be maintained with them. Bunny, on March 18, 1956, last, advised that she and James had jumped a local bond on narcotics charges about the first of this year and gone to Dallas. James was driving a cab for City Transportation Company and was apparently operating in some branch of the prostitution racket. Bunny was told by James he had a connection with a large narcotics set up operating between Mexico, Texas and the East. James made several trips and returned. He purposely did not give details so she could not get into trouble. He took his clothes about three weeks ago and said he was going on another trip. She heard later that he left her, but heard also from a bondsman named Schmit this was not true, and that James had contacted him, and asked him to look out for her in case she got into any trouble. She believes James made the connection to narcotics ring through a former associate from Seagoville Prison where James served time. In some fashion James got the okay to operate through JACK RUBY of Dallas. Several days ago, one Jack, (LNU) of Houston came to see Bunny with one Gordon Winter of Houston, a friend of hers and James. Jack told her that James was trying to hijack a 300 to 400 thousand dollar load of narcotics from Mexico and was going to try and go with another distribution setup...Bunny fears James has been killed or kidnapped and wanted to talk to someone she could trust. [FBI 62-103069 3.22.56; WCE 1762; FBI LHM, Cleveland, Ohio, 6.9.64; FBI 44-24016-1160; FBI 44-24016-1180; FBI 44-24016,1492, 5158, 610]

RE: JACK L. RUBY, AKA.

3. This item was taken from an airtel from Los Angeles to the Bureau and Dallas dated 3/20/56 entitled "James Breen, Miscellaneous - Information Concerning." [The airtel sets forth information relating to a contact of the Los Angeles Office on 3/18/56 by Eileen Curry, Breen's common-law wife [redacted] and had moved to Dallas.] It states that Curry indicated that she believed James Breen, who was allegedly handling narcotics, had in some fashion gotten the OK to operate through Jack Ruby of Dallas. This item is the basis for information set forth in the report of SA Manning C. Clements at Dallas dated 11/30/63 indicating that Ruby was known to be an associate [of Eileen Curry]

On February 11, 1964, Eileen Curry was arrested in Chicago for running a house of prostitution. The FBI received this information in March 1964. The Dallas FBI: "Since the trial of JACK RUBY is now in progress no action will be taken UACB to locate Curry and Breen for interview... Following references in Dallas files are identifiable with Breen: 137-440 (Potential Criminal Informant file on Eileen Curry). 31-7327.31-6047, 31-7294, 91-1185, Serials 16, 29, 52, 79, 135, 91-1184 Ser. 7." In June 1964 the Warren Commission asked the FBI to locate Eileen Curry and James Breen. The FBI interviewed Lieutenant Martin P. Cooney who was in charge of the Bureau of Special Investigations of the Cleveland Police Department. He told the FBI that Eileen Curry operated a brothel in Chicago and gave the agents the address. He said he considered Eileen Curry to be unreliable and would not place any credence in anything she said unless her statements could be corroborated from at least two other sources. Lieutenant Martin P. Cooney considered her "one of the most dangerous and unreliable woman he had ever dealt with."

On June 11, 1964, Curry told the FBI:

Approximately four weeks after their arrival in Dallas, James Breen brought JACK RUBY to the apartment house where he introduced RUBY to Curry as a friend of his. A few days after this first meeting, JACK RUBY, accompanied by a white male, who was short and dark, drove to the Curry apartment. They waited outside of the apartment until joined by James Breen, at which time they departed. Later that day James Breen told Curry that he had accompanied RUBY to an unnamed location, where he had been shown moving pictures of various border guards both Mexican and American. [RUBY had the telephone number of a Mexican Government Official in one of the notebooks taken from his home by the FBI in late November 1963]. In addition, included among the movies were films of persons described by James Breen as various narcotics agents as well as persons who were contacts on the Mexican side.

The FBI contacted the parents of James Breen and was told that he had been adopted, and the Breen family had experienced considerable difficulty with him. Mrs. Breen had not heard from him for 14 years. In July 1964, as a result of a telephone conversation between Burt Griffin and FBI Agent Hines, the Warren Commission asked the FBI to discontinue its attempt to find James Breen.

The Warren Commission never called Eileen Curry as a witness, despite the fact that the files of the FBI on RUBY listed Eileen Curry as one of his associates:

Information concerning RUBY'S association with Eileen Curry appears on page five of a nine page memorandum, undated, but block stamped, April 4, 1956, submitted by S.A. Emmet J. Murphy, captioned (deleted). The memo is a former Dallas Office form DL-3, which was used at the time for recording preliminary information to form the basis for opening a Potential Criminal Informant file. RUBY'S name appears on page five, paragraph J,

under the sub-caption, 'Criminal Associates' The basis for inclusion of RUBY as an associate of the Potential Criminal Informant was apparently an airtel dated March 20, 1956, from the Los Angeles Office to the Director (deleted as of 2010). [FBI 44-1639-4518]

Ruby's name appears on page 5, paragraph J, under sub-caption "Criminal Associates" The basis for the inclusion of Ruby as an associate of the PCI was apparently an airtel dated March 20, 1956 from the Los Angeles Office to the Director captioned JAMES BREEN, was. "Ring" Michael Conner; Miscellaneous Information Concerning" in which the PCI made reference to Ruby. Curry was discontinued as a PCI in September 1956 when it was determined she had left the city. (Deleted as of 2010) Curry was the subject of Dallas airtel March 3, 1964 in the Ruby case along with former paramour, (Deleted as of 2010) James Breen.

In 1968 Breen, who had remarried and had a daughter reverted back to his old ways and was arrested for Interstate Transportation of a Motor Vehicle. [NARA RIF 124-10099-10249] James Breen and Eileen "Bunny" Curry were career criminals. They were apprehended often and became informants. What was the FBI waiting for? A nun or a rabbi to come forward with information on Ruby? Curry's story corroborated the earlier allegations that RUBY was involved in narcotics. The FBI was afraid to interview Breen.

#### RUBY AND JESSE CURRY



In 1956 RUBY traveled to Hot Springs, Arkansas, a center of gambling and vice in the South. RUBY was accompanied by Jesse Curry, the Chief of Police of Dallas, Texas. After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, a friend of RUBY'S, Eli Schulman, told the FBI that "RUBY had many Dallas cops for friends - in fact he took the Chief of Police to Hot Springs Arkansas, when I don't know." [FBI 44-24016-275; C.Ray Hall WCE 3; FBI DL 44-1639; LL R: BC D-cover page]

#### ANGLETON AND RUBY

That year (1956) an enquiry about RUBY was made to ANGLETON:

December 6, 1956

Dear Jim:

J.B. Matthews called today and asked me to check a ~~Jack Rubenstein or Rubinstein.~~ J.B. said that this bird was active in the twenties, and when I told him that the index didn't go back that far, he told me to forget it.

I would, however, like to check what we have, but as you know I don't have the R section of the index. Would it be too much trouble to have the original slips checked, and those on this man sent to me?

Sincerely,

*Charlie*

ANGLETON AND POSSIBLE QUESTIONABLE ACTIVITY  
ANGLETON OFFICE OF SECURITY FILE

James Angleton

For additional information regarding James Angleton, see the memorandum dated 26 September 1977, subject Edward Epstein, which appears in the Epstein file (OS #488 768).

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

SUBJECT: Possible Questionable Activity

1. In 1963 a CIA agent was used in support of an FBI investigation of Jimmy Hoffa. Paragraph 4 requests your advice.

2. Background: On June 27, 1975, JIM ANGLETON telephoned Walt Elder. Dave Aaron of the Senate Select Committee staff had uncovered a staff agent in New York who had been an Agency Mafia penetration which ANGLETON said was made on Attorney General Robert Kennedy's authorization in 1963. The agent had tried to contact his case officer but was unsuccessful, and so instead contacted ANGLETON. ANGLETON had advised John Greaney, Office of General Counsel. Neither of them had thought to notify Chief, CI, or Review Staff. Greaney later indicated he thought the agent had retired. Walter Elder then called Bill Miller to alert

him to the sensitivity of the issue, and especially to the possibility of mafia retribution against the agent. Miller noted this and said that Patrick Shea would be doing the questioning. Shea then called Elder and pointed out that he had talked to the agent and had not learned about his current employment with CIA until the end of their conversation. Shea placed his contact in the "non-abuse" category. Shea said he was summarizing his talk in an Eyes Only memo for Bill Miller. Shea planned to talk further with the agent.

3. I discussed the matter with John Greaney. In summary, he told me that the agent Mario Brod in February 1963 had come into contact with Herbert Itkin who had information about links between the Chicago Teamsters Union and the mafia. Brod reported this to his case officer, and in a few days Helms discussed the matter with Kennedy, because of his requirements for information on Hoffa, and with Sam Papich of the FBI. The FBI was enamored of Itkin's contacts with labor and the mafia Brod was to develop Itkin as an FBI source and turn him over to them. CIA could not turn over Brod to the FBI because he was a long time agent recruited in Italy in 1944 by JIM ANGLETON who had operational involvements for us in Haiti and other places.

In March 1963 Brod turned Itkin over to the FBI, but unfortunately kept a string on him. Itkin was a handling problem, and from time to time, would return to Brod for advice and so forth. Raymond Rocca (CI) had prepared a full book on the Brod - Itkin case but they are only mentioned in pseudo.

This book was brought to the attention of the Inspector General after a June 9, 1975, *Time* article named Mafiosi in connection with the CIA. Scott Breckinridge said that he had not seen the black book, or known of the Brod mafia link, prior to June 1975, even though there had been several Agency inquiries about questionable activities and one specifically for all Agency links with organized crime. I request your advice as to whether this is a questionable activity and whether we should alert the DCI, the White House, and the SSCIA. - Jerrold B. Brown.

Brod, a U.S. Army intelligence officer who took part in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily during World War II had arranged a warm welcome for American troops when they occupied Sicily.

#### ANGLETON COMMENTS ON BROWN ACCUSATIONS

DFC, [Donald. F. Chamberlain, Inspector General]

Jerry's quotation of me is not accurate. Back when TIME ran the allegation of a CIA tie with the assassination of some gangland types, we ran the name of the gangsters in against the files. No trace. John Greaney asked,



and we told him what we found. He showed me a black three ring notebook that showed that an Agency contact knew a man named Itkin who knew the dead man. It was clear from the few lines I read there was no Agency tie and that the Itkin association was entirely independent of his Agency connections. As my interest was in the possibility tie of the Agency to the dead man, and this said there was none, I give it no further notice. When Jerry phoned me, I made a point of the limited nature of my interest, and what I found. He did not take issue with my statement of conclusion that there was no Agency tie to those gangland people. I recognize the subject but not the (illegible).

#### BRECKINGRIDGE COMMENTS

Routing Slip  
To: Mr. J. B. Brown

Remarks: About your memo of 1 July appearing to quote me on points that I don't recognize. When TIME ran an article claiming CIA involvement in a gangland slaying in New York John Leader checked for operational contacts under the names of the people in the story – negative. When John Greaney called me I reported this to him and he brought us the book and showed us a passage naming the man who had been killed. This indicated a separate contact between those men and Itkin, but independent from any Agency association. We didn't take it beyond that and remained unaware of the association you have me commenting on. In fact, John Greaney seemed to agree with my interpretation at that time. From S. D. Breckinridge.

#### THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jerrold B. Brown July 7, 1975

SUBJECT: Your Memorandum Concerning Contact of Agency Agent with Members of the Criminal Syndicate

1. Your memorandum of July 1, 1975 reports a contact of an Agency agent with a man who, in turn, had independent contacts with members of the Criminal Syndicate. There seems to be no relationship between the Agency and the criminals, except to the extent that the Agency's agent --- at the request of the Attorney General --- attempted to develop his contact for exploitation by the FBI.
2. It is not all apparent to us that this constitutes a questionable activity, particularly in view of the nature of the association as described by you. We intend no action on this matter unless you have further information

that might change the above understanding Donald. F. Chamberlain,  
Inspector General

The *Time* article concerned the CIA's utilization of Russell Bufalino, James Plumeri and Salvatore Granello as spotters prior to the Bay of Pigs. *The Sacramento Bee* quoted a former CIA agent as saying Russell Bufalino, James Plumeri and Salvatore Granello supplied information to the CIA in 1961. The former agent said Lawrence Houston received the information through two CIA employees who were dealing with organized crime figures. [NARA 1993.08.12.15:54:36:560007] Walter Elder commented:

The Agency was involved with the mafia in efforts to try to get somewhere near Castro. It was well known to the Attorney General. This came to the attention of the Attorney General and we went over and talked to him about it. It was somewhat widely known throughout the Agency. It never came to my attention that we had anything to do with a Hoffa investigation. ANGLETON was in contact with agents all over the world. If it says he had an agent in the mafia, I wouldn't be a bit surprised. Maybe overseas. This memo was signed by Jerry Brown? Jerry was five or six times removed - he was on the Review Staff. To tie that all together, I think is drawing a long bow.

Elder was surprised that a CIA agent was used in a domestic, criminal investigation conducted by the FBI: "I don't know how Jerry Brown got that. He long since retired. We returned him to the Foreign Broadcast Information Service from whence he had come. I would take this whole thing with a grain of salt, given the author."

Walter Elder joined the CIA on September 10, 1951. In 1959 he was a senior intelligence duty officer in the office of Current Intelligence. On February 8, 1960 he became Assistant to the Director with the specific assignment as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director who was then General Cabell. He continued in this capacity until Cabell retired in January 1962. McCone became Director in November 1961. In May 1962 he became DCI McCone's Executive Assistant until he left in April 1965. Elder was still at the CIA in 1975. Walter Elder was called before the Church Commission.

Mr. Schwarz: Were you present on an occasion on August, 1962 when Mr. McCone discussed the subject of assassination with Mr. William Harvey?

Elder: Yes I was.

Mr. Schwarz: Was that an occasion which followed the so-called Special Group (Augmented) August 10 meeting, the Lansdale memo or August 13 and the Harvey memo of August 14?

Elder: That is correct.

At this conference McCone raised the possibility of assassinating Castro. Elder was also involved in plots against Duvalier of Cuba, although he denied it saying McCone was Catholic and would go to hell if he authorized a murder. Elder was aware of the CIA Mafia assassination attempts against Castro:

Mr. Kirbow: What you are really saying is while Johnny Roselli and his assets were not, in fact, being used, they were never told to go away, we are finished, no further actions with you. They were stood down in the sense of the Agency.

Mr. Elder: To the best of my knowledge, as of April, 1961, they were stood down in terms as were all operations in terms of let us regroup and see where we go from here. They were never discharged or turned loose.

JAMES ANGLETON used New York lawyer Mario Brod who, according to a CIA memo, was a CI Staff agent in New York City from 1952 to 1971. [Memo of 5 September 1975 to DDO from CI Staff Chief George Kalaris, NARA #104-1010-10003, p. 2.] One of the sensitive CI Staff agents handled by Brod in New York was Jay Lovestone, the AFL-CIO International Affairs Chief. Brod died in 1980.



Herbert Itkin

#### HERBERT ITKIN: ANOTHER ANGLETON VEST POCKET OP

Herbert Itkin came from a secular Jewish family in Borough Park and attended New Utrecht High School. In 1944 he enlisted in a special Army training program for high school students and after V-J day was sent to northern Japan with a field hospital unit. Later he said he was a paratrooper attached to Army intelligence. When he returned home he invested in a Luncheonette which failed as a result of his father's suicide attempt. Herbert subsequently attended law school and joined Delsen, Levin and Gordon where he married Diana Kane, a daughter of a man on the fringes of Republican politics in Pennsylvania and the granddaughter of a Civil War general. Diana was his entre into the world of intelligence. Itkin told the *New York Times*,

The CIA was just putting people in positions where they might be useful later. Sometimes the CIA wants people in places to spread false rumors and the law firm had clients like the Indonesians and others. My recruitment was carried out at a very high level. My father-in-law, E. Kent Kane was a friend of Harold Stassen, one time Republican Governor of Minnesota and former President of the University of Pennsylvania. In July

1954 Stassen introduced me to then CIA Director Allen Dulles. Mr. Dulles interest in me stemmed from information on domestic Communism I gave to Joe McCarthy in the early 1950's. Later I was asserting myself into the underworld and I used every means I could think of to do it.

The CIA stated:

1. Mr. Herbert Itkin, a lawyer in New York City is known to have passed certain sensitive information to an asset of GOLIATH from 1961 on. Itkin claims he has been associated with GOLIATH some 1954, when he was recruited by one Philip Harbin at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia where he also met Allen Dulles.
2. GOLIATH has no information regarding Philip Harbin but is of the opinion that Harbin might be Philip Clark Horton, a former OSS employee and associate of Mr. Dulles.
3. It is therefore requested that the New York Field Office interview Horton using Goliath credentials and ask whether or not he recruited Herbert Itkin in 1954 or later or did he at any time handle or act as a cutout for Itkin.

The results of the Horton interview were never released. Stassen told the CIA he met Itkin in 1961 or 1962 and never introduced him to Dulles. Itkin told his story to CIA:

Itkin said that when he was first admitted to the bar in 1953 he was employed by the firm of Delson, Levin & Gordon in New York City (now Delson and Gordon). As I understand it, one partner, Levin, particularly had close ties with Alger Hiss, Cyrus Eaton and others of a similar nature. Apparently, at that time the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization was in the process of formation, and these people were taking the position that Indonesia and Burma should stay out of SEATO, as by their nature they would benefit more by association with socialistic countries such as Russia and China. Mr. Itkin said when he became aware of their attempts in this direction, he began reporting to Senator Joseph McCarthy. This went on for some time, but Itkin states that, when he had a conversation with Senator Joe McCarthy in the spring of 1954, the Senator said he was getting into trouble and since he had passed Itkin's reports to CIA, who thought they were very valuable, the Senator felt Itkin should report directly to the Agency. Itkin said a meeting was set up for him with Allen Dulles, the DCI, at the Bellevue Stratford in Philadelphia, probably in July 1954, but it might have been either June or August. He said Mr. Dulles was rather noncommittal but said that if Itkin wanted to continue furnishing information arrangement would be made for a CIA contact. Itkin said he did want to continue and a person known to him as Philip Harbin was put in touch with him as his CIA contact. He said he was never given anyway of

contacting Harbin, but Harbin would call him from time to time and ask what there was to report. Itkin said nothing was given in writing and so far as he knew Harbin just made notes of their conversations. At this time, through his law firm contacts, Itkin said he was able to report on matters affecting U Nu, then the Premier of Burma. Ali Sastroamidjojo, Indonesian Foreign Minister; and the owner or editor of the New Dehli Times. Itkin had personal contacts with Luis Gutierrez, Consul General of El Salvador. After some reports gained from Gutierrez, Itkin said Harbin met Gutierrez in New Orleans. Itkin also had information from a Rosa Morales, who had Guatemalan contacts. Itkin said the only money he received from Harbin was \$5,000, which was supposed to be repayable and for which he gave a receipt, believed sometime in 1957. He said the money was not repaid.

Itkin's story of the meeting with Mario Brod in 1961 tallies fairly closely with Brod's story, although there are some discrepancies. He said Brod was represented to him as a former Colonel in the OSS who had intelligence connections. Accordingly he asked Harbin what his relation to Brod should be, and after some time had passed, Harbin instructed him to stay close to Brod and everyone would be happy. From then on his contact was Brod and apparently Harbin dropped out of the picture. Harbin mentioned three specific episodes during his contact with Brod. The first was a plan to assassinate President Duvalier of Haiti. He said that the proposal was that the Mafia would carry out the assassination in return for a commitment from Luis des Joies and others that the gangsters behind the assassination would get gambling concession in Haiti. Itkin states the FBI was informed about this plan and insisted that it be called off. Secondly, Itkin says that in 1965 he was able to steal some Spanish papers which told about Spanish plans for Gibraltar and their efforts to oust the British. He said he submitted these through Brod and understood they were considered very important. He said the FBI had a copy. Thirdly Itkin said that on encouragement from Brod he paid \$20,000 to a Haitian group, including Luis des Joies. I asked him whether this was Agency money and he said no that it was money he had he was never repaid.

Note how the results of the interview with Horton are deleted from this next document. It is obvious from the word "however" that he denied knowing Itkin. Nonetheless Angleton's men in CI continue to push the line that it was him. Why? "Harbin" was JAMES ANGLETON, or was one of his subordinates.

November 22, 1968  
MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Security  
SUBJECT: Herbert Itkin

1. Per your direction, I discussed this case with John Mertz, CI Staff in an attempt to find out whether or not Philip Harbin was a name that they had used. Mertz in turn asked Mr. Rocca and Mr. Paul Hartman. No one has

identified the name; however, Mr. Rocca believes that this individual could have been Horton #4680. A review of Horton's file reflects that he left Agency employment in 1948 to resume work as a reporter on The Reporter.

2. Horton had been of interest covertly in October of 1955 for use on OKOPERA. However, CIOA's interest was cancelled.

3. It is of interest to note, however, that informants state that Horton worked directly for Dulles during the OSS days, and his relationship with Mr. Dulles has been described as more than an employer / employee one. The possibility exists, therefore that Mr. Dulles utilized Horton in 1954 as a "cut-out" between himself and Itkin. Ward K. Greene SA / EPD.

In 1967, while out on bail for refusing to return escrow money Herbert Itkin was indicted along with Tony "Ducks" Corrallo for bribing New York City's Waterworks Commissioner, Stanley Marcus. Itkin was indicted in a similar scheme the following year. In March 1968 it was revealed that Itkin was a snitch working for CIA and FBI. He was immediately placed under protective custody. Mr. Itkin was also registered as a foreign agent for the Provisional Government of the Republic of Haiti in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In an agreement filed with the registration and dated May 1963 Itkin was to be paid an annual retainer of 50K for a period of two years – "immediately due and owing as soon as the said Provisional Government becomes the de facto or de jure Government of the Republic of Haiti and Haitian Territory." Itkin met with an unidentified public relations man during this time and discussed the possibility of obtaining arms and developing a clandestine organization to help overthrow the Duvalier regime. Itkin also had contacts in the Dominican Republic and made 20 visits there in 1965 shortly after a civil war broke out. Itkin described his trips to Santo Domingo as "missions." After the Hatian caper reached a dead end Itkin was involved in other missions on behalf of JAMES ANGELTON that involved the theft of precious metals including platinum, from the innards of United States missiles in Europe; the smuggling of gold from Egypt as part of a scheme to profit from the devaluation of the British Pound; a diamond smuggling operation in West Africa. In the fall of 1966 he turned up in London shortly after George Blake, a British atomic spy, had mysteriously escaped from HRM Wormwood Scrubs Prison and had fled behind the iron curtain.

When the Feds would not give Itkin's two step children protection he threatened to escape custody and "go back to the boys" – the Cosa Nostra, he explained – who would play him any amount of money not to testify. He told an FBI Agent, "I am going to have Hoffa's attorney reopen the Hoffa case because Hoffa is in jail now because of information I gave Bill about jury tampering." On February 3, 1968 Itkin threatened Brod. Later that year NYC DA Frank Hogan indicted Itkin. Itkin would later bring down Tammany Hall boss Carmine DeSapio. Itkin was allowed to keep much of the money he received in bribes and kickbacks.



SCHWARTZ

In January 1968 Robert Schwartz, a Long Island lawyer, was charged with plotting to murder Herbert. Schwartz had contracted an ex-con named Robert H. Roden to do the hit. Schwartz was working for Tony "Ducks" Corallo's partner, John Dioguardi. In 1970 Itkin was indicted on the 1968 charges that Hogan had brought against that had previously been transferred to Federal Court and dismissed at the request of U.S. Attorney Henry Morgenthau. Itkin stated that there was



RODEN

a Mafia mole in Hogan's office and he was probably right. In 1971 Itkin brought down Broadway Maintenance for bribery.

On November 27, 1967, ANGLETON, William Harvey and John Rosselli had a meeting at Washington, D.C.'s, Madison Hotel. William Harvey volunteered that he did not notice any Bureau surveillance at this meeting. [CIA MFR 12.11.67] By 1968 Harvey established a law office in Washington, D.C. On December 11, 1968, James P. O'Connell Deputy Director / PT Office of Security met with Rosselli. William Harvey died in Indianapolis, Indiana, on June 9, 1976, following a heart attack.

#### JOSEPH 'CHUBBY' MALONE

Joseph 'Chubby' Malone, who operated Duffy's Tavern, a known hangout for prostitutes, advised the FBI that he met RUBY at the Ellis Park Race Track in Kentucky in 1957 or 1958. RUBY was with the late Lieutenant Ellis Joseph, "who had been a member of the Louisville Police Department from about 1934 until permitted to resign in 1952 as outgrowth of charges alleging theft... Lieutenant Ellis Joseph told him that RUBY was a syndicate man out of Chicago." [FBI 44-1639-1086] "While at Ellis Park, Ellis Joseph introduced him to a JACK RUBY whom he recalled is the same individual whose photograph has recently appeared in newspaper publicity in connection with the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Joseph told him that RUBY was 'a syndicate man out of Chicago.' Joseph Malone did not know where RUBY was living at that time. Lt. Ellis Joseph appeared to be well acquainted with RUBY, and both remained together during the races at the track on that particular day. Joseph Malone advised that Ellis Joseph told him that RUBY was a 'good friend' and had some 'hot' horses, that is, tips on winners, allegedly on the horse that were being bet by the 'syndicate' on that date. Joseph Malone advised that RUBY had a number of winners that date. RUBY was accompanied by an unrecalled white male, age 45 to 50, of Jewish extraction. This individual remained with RUBY and Ellis Joseph on that occasion. Joseph Malone has had no contact with RUBY since that time. [The following was crossed out] Joseph Malone noted that from 1956 to 1958 he was putting down large wagers with Louisville bookmakers on behalf of Courtney Snider, a Jeffersonville, Indiana, bookmaker. Courtney Snider was then alleged to have been handling 'syndicate' business interests from Evansville, Indiana." [NARA #124-10099-10290]

#### MEYER LANSKY, RUBY AND THE COLONIAL INN

When the war ended, Meyer Lansky opened a gambling house within easy reach of Miami. In 1946, The Colonial Inn opened its doors in Hallandale, Florida. The Sheriff of Hallandale, Walter Clark, operated a numbers racket from his office and controlled slot machines throughout Broward County. His deputies protected Meyer Lansky's holdings. Frank Erickson, Joe Adonis, CARLOS MARCELLO, SANTO TRAFFICANTE, Sr., Frank Costello all had points in the Colonial Inn. The profits from the Colonial Inn were invested in the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, then under construction. Meyer Lansky and "Bugsy" Siegel supervised the construction of the Flamingo. The Colonial Inn closed in 1948, but with the cooperation of corrupt law enforcement officials, other establishments like it flourished.

### SENATOR ESTES KEFAUVER DRIVES THE MOB TO CUBA

In 1950 the Flamingo Hotel and the Colonial Inn, along with the names Meyer and Jake Lansky recurred with regularity throughout the Kefauver Hearings. Meyer Lansky admitted having known Frank Costello, Joe Adonis, Frank Erickson, the Fishetti Brothers, Vincent Alo, Anthony Accardo, Jack Dragna, Johnny Rosselli, Doc Stacher and "Trigger-Mike" Coppola. In February 1951 Meyer Lansky was questioned again. Joe Adonis was deported, and Frank Erickson was jailed. [Testimony of Meyer Lansky - Kefauver Hearings] The televised hearings brought so much "heat" on the mob Meyer Lansky could no longer operate with immunity within the United States. The syndicate returned to Cuba where the Authentic Party of Carlos Prio Socarras was in power. Meyer Lansky wanted to see Carlos Prio Socarras overthrown and Batista reinstalled. Meyer Lansky had worked with Fulgencio Batista in the early 1930's. He encouraged Fulgencio Batista to run *in absentia* for the Cuban Senate. [Tad Szulc, *The Cuban Invasion*, Ballantine Books 1962] As stated in, Batista overthrew Prio on March 10, 1952. Meyer Lansky, however, could not take immediate advantage of the coup. He was in prison for one year. When he was released in 1953 Meyer Lansky invested heavily in Cuba. In 1954, Meyer Lansky moved to Havana, where he became the top syndicate figure. SANTOS TRAFFICANTE Jr. became second in command. It was easy for Meyer Lansky to persuade Fulgencio Batista to legalize gambling. In 1955 Fulgencio Batista changed the gambling laws to permit a legal casino in any nightclub or hotel worth one million dollars or more. The Cuban Minister of Labor ruled that all pit bosses, stickmen, and dealers, in casinos were skilled technicians who qualified for admission under two year visas. The Cuban Government offered in one way or another to put up a good part of the construction costs for any new casinos. For the \$17 million Riviera government-controlled banks loaned \$6 million. Meyer Lansky supervised the construction of the Riviera. Within four years the syndicate constructed \$50 million worth of gambling casinos; the Riviera - worth \$17 million; the Cleveland-mob controlled Hotel Nacional - worth \$7 million; the Tropicana - worth \$6 million; Capri - a property of the mafia group headed by Charlie "the Blade" Tourine - estimated worth - \$5 million; Seville Biltmore - worth \$4 million, Deauville - worth \$2.5 million and the San Souci - worth \$1 million. [*Life* 3.10.58; *NYT* 1.12.59]

Meyer Lansky and Fulgencio Batista turned Cuba into the center of gambling, narcotics and vice in the Western Hemisphere. The take was so high that Albert Anastasia, who



was the "Chairman of the Board" of Murder Incorporated, tried to take-over Meyer Lansky's empire. TRAFFICANTE hit Albert Anastasia's under-boss, Frank Costello, then hit Albert Anastasia, as he lay in a barber-chair, getting a shave. New York District Attorney Frank S. Hogan named TRAFFICANTE as a suspect in the killing and announced that he wanted to question Meyer Lansky. [*NY World Telegram*, 1.9.59, "An Anastasia Grab at Cuba Dice Triggered Fate," Paul Meskil; *Time* 3.2.59]

Meyer Lansky and SANTOS TRAFFICANTE Jr., out of reach of New York District Attorney Frank S. Hogan in Cuba, prospered. The mob's major problem was that Cuba was a banana republic. This meant constant, periodic, changes of government. In order to hedge its bets some elements of the syndicate supported Fidel Castro.

#### MACK BLANEY JOHNSON RUBY AND THE COLONIAL INN

According to Mack Blaney Johnson JACK RUBY owned points in Lansky's Colonial Inn. Mack Blaney Johnson (born 1900) informed the FBI of this connection on November 29, 1963: "Blaney Mack Johnson (protect identity), interviewed by S.A. Daniel D. Doyle, claims to have owned interest in Playbrook Club, Miami, Florida, in early 1950's, during which time JACK RUBY held an interest in the Colonial Inn..." The Miami City Directory for 1949 listed a Playbrook Club. It was not listed for any other year. The Colonial Inn shut down on February 12, 1948, by an injunction by the Broward Court. Miami Office FBI files did not reflect that it ever reopened. Johnson was mistaken about the time he ran the Playbrook Club so he might have been mistaken about the year that Ruby owned points in the Colonial Inn.

#### WALT ZASSLER

In 1975 this researcher located a former Hallandale policeman, Walt Zassler, who had worked for Sheriff Walter Clark. He was familiar with the Colonial Inn operation. He was asked if Jack RUBY or JACK RUBENSTEIN was involved. Walt Zassler stated:

I do remember the name. There was Jack so and so Rubystein and Rubystine...I do remember the name. I don't know if it was the same JACK RUBY, but there was a JACK RUBY involved. I met this guy a long time ago, about 1950. I was indicted by a Grand Jury that came about as a result of the Kefauver Investigation and I went to Alaska.

#### RUBY AND ARMS SMUGGLING TO CUBA

Mack Blaney Johnson also told the FBI that in the early 1950's he was an independent airplane pilot engaged in flights of cargo from Miami to Havana Cuba:

In this connection he allegedly learned of illegal flights of cargo from Miami to Havana Cuba for the Castro organization in Cuba. JACK RUBY, then known as JACK RUBENSTEIN, was active in arranging these flights. He

was part owner of two airplanes used for these purposes. Mack Blaney Johnson subsequently left Miami and purchased substantial share in Havana gaming house, business name unknown, in which one Carlos Prio was principal owner. Carlos Prio, Johnson explains, was within favor of former Cuban leader Batista, but was instrumental in financing and managing accumulation of weapons by pro-Castro forces. Johnson advises one Donald Edward Browder was associated with RUBY in arms smuggling operation. Johnson names one Joe Marrs, Marrs Aircraft, as having contracted with RUBY to make flights to Havana. Leslie Lewis, the former Police Chief of Hialeah, Florida, now possibly pistol instructor, Dade County Florida Sheriff's Department, possessed, according to Johnson, a detailed knowledge of persons involved in flight of weapons to Cuba and has specific knowledge of RUBY participation. [FBI 44-24016-471,76; WCE 3063; FBI 44-24016-75; FBI Report 11.29.63 and 11.30.63 Atlanta; FBI 105-3193; WCE 3063; FBI 44-24016-624; WCD 856; FBI 44-1639-4835]

Johnson stated that: "Carlos Prio, Johnson explains, was within favor of former Cuban leader Batista, but was instrumental in financing and managing accumulation of weapons by pro-Castro forces." This was never true. Johnson was confused on another point.

On November 30, 1963, Mack Blaney Johnson was re-contacted by the FBI and shown a photograph of RUBY. Mack Blaney Johnson said he was convinced beyond a doubt the JACK RUBENSTEIN he knew was identical to JACK RUBY. He added that Clifton T. Bowes Jr., a pilot for National Airlines, was familiar with JACK RUBENSTEIN. The FBI claimed a problem with Mack Blaney Johnson's story was that "while there were flights of weapons to Cuba in the early 1950's, noted Castro organization was not active until about 1956." Fidel Castro tried to storm the Moncada on July 26, 1953, and his organization was active before this.

#### LESLIE LEWIS

The FBI questioned Leslie Lewis on November 30, 1963. He told the Bureau he was Chief of Hialeah Police Department from May 1947 to September 1947. He never heard of JACK RUBY and had no knowledge whatsoever of persons flying weapons to Cuba. He stated he did not know Edward Browder or Joe Marrs.

#### JOSEPH MARRS

Joe Marrs told the FBI on November 30, 1963,

...he was a pilot for Eastern Airlines during World War II. Immediately after the war he engaged in selling airplanes and airplane parts in Miami, Florida. He never flew for hire or transported any goods by air to Cuba or otherwise. He had never heard of JACK RUBY and as far as he knows he

never saw him prior to RUBY'S appearance on TV last weekend. Concerning Donald Edward Browder, he knew him as Ed Browder, and ex-RCAF Ferry Command pilot who came to Miami about 1945. He described Browder as an individual he shunned due to being a shady promotor and blowhard who was all conversation and no money. Browder spoke of plans to set up an air transport service to South American countries, but to Marrs' knowledge did not succeed in doing so. Marrs has read of Browder's alleged escapades of smuggling, but has no knowledge of them. [FBI 44-24016-594]

Investigation in Miami developed that Joe Marrs was a former Eastern Airlines pilot until 1943, when he was dismissed because of ulcers.

### CLIFTON T. BOWES

When the FBI questioned Clifton T. Bowes on December 1, 1963, he said he has been

National Airlines pilot for the past 20 years. Says he never heard of JACK RUBY or JACK RUBENSTEIN and certain he has never met him. States never heard of RUBY until recent TV publicity and has no information concerning anyone sending arms to Cuba...Does not know Edward Browder though says he formerly knew a Mack Blaney Johnson as an independent pilot in Miami. Never closely acquainted with Mack Blaney Johnson, but understood Mack Blaney Johnson was ill and hospitalized for some unknown reason several years ago. Last saw Johnson some three years ago. Describes him as rational but highly imaginative, a story teller, and apt to identify himself with unusual situations. He says Johnson particularly imaginative when drinking.

[FBI 44-24016-594] Clifton T. Bowes was questioned by this interviewer in 1975. He said Johnson "was an alcoholic who has since died. He died some five or six years ago. Don't know what he died of" On November 5, 2003 CLIFTON T. BOWES JR., 83, in Lilburn, Georgia died.

The Dallas SAC determined on December 10, 1963, that the "Investigation appears to indicate information furnished by Johnson is a fabrication in its entirety. No further inquiries in same connection are intended." [FBI 44-1639-1769 to Director] On April 3, 1964, J. Lee Rankin asked that

...the allegations of Atlanta informant be fully resolved and reported to the Warren Commission. On April 10, 1964, the SAC Dallas stated that "in view of information in Miami telexs which negated information from Atlanta informant, information in Miami tels has not been submitted in report form to date, and accordingly, President's Commission, while receiving referenced Atlanta report, has not received additional

investigation...Suggest Atlanta inform Johnson his identity can no longer be concealed...

The FBI informed Mack Blaney Johnson of this on April 11, 1963. Mack Blaney Johnson told the FBI that Leslie Lewis, Joe Marrs and Clifton T. Bowes were lying due to their having participated in illegal activities. [FBI 44-1639-4835] Mack Blaney Johnson "re-affirmed the truthfulness and accuracy of information heretofore furnished and expressed belief that Lewis, Marrs and Bowes, to serve their own interests, lied concerning their knowledge of, or participation in, weapons smuggling together with JACK RUBENSTEIN'S involvement." The Dallas FBI requested the Atlanta FBI check Johnson, Lewis, Marrs and Bowes criminal and credit records. No derogatory information was uncovered. [FBI 44-1639-4836] Mack Blaney Johnson had told the FBI he had no objection to his name being disclosed for official purposes. On April 13, 1964, the FBI re-interviewed Mack Blaney Johnson.

After detailed interrogation Johnson finally admitted that he could be mistaken about individual he knew as JACK RUBENSTEIN being identical with Subject JACK RUBY. He said individual he knew as JACK RUBENSTEIN described as 5'9" to 5'10", 160 lbs, black hair with full head of hair, hairline not receding, middle 40's, athletic build, was a golfer and resided in the Racket Club in Miami. Johnson also stated Bob Vollmar, of the Records Bureau, City of Miami Police Department and Bill Gould, the owner of the Playbrook Club, are individuals that should know JACK RUBENSTEIN, and were also familiar with the alleged smuggling of guns to Cuba in the early 1950's. Johnson was asked to give a more detailed time of his residence in Miami and his acquaintanceship with JACK RUBENSTEIN, and he stated this was about the time of the Kefauver Investigations. He stated it could have been 1952, or 1953, but had no way of verifying it. Records, Atlanta, Police Department, reflect no record for Mack Blaney Johnson. Credit Bureau records file established August 1961. No derogatory information. Resided in Miami 17 years prior to 1961. Johnson advised that until he suffered a heart attack several years ago he was a pilot, and had a part interest in the Playbrook Club in Miami in the early 1950's. Johnson, also as a pilot, made numerous flights of cargo from Miami to Havana, but stated he never participated in the smuggling of arms. He stated that he had participated in night club activity in Florida, and some of his activities would tend to incriminate him, but he would not go into detail. However, he indicated Playbrook Club had a gambling casino which was closed as a result of the Kefauver investigations, and he also indicated the Colonial Inn was a place where counterfeit money was handled...His wife was present during part of interview and stated she believed he was mistaken concerning the identity of JACK RUBENSTEIN, but reluctant to admit it. However Johnson converses in a rational manner and does not appear to be unstable...Johnson was shown a photograph of Eddie Browder and stated Browder not identical with the Donald Edward Browder he knew in Florida. [FBI 44-1639-4840]

Johnson finally got the message that the FBI was not going to leave him alone until he retracted his statements. On April 13, 1964, the FBI questioned Robert Vollmar. He said he knew Johnson for many years and he understood Johnson has become an increasingly heavy drinker. He denied having known RUBY etc. and said "that he feels if Johnson has attributed such knowledge to him then Johnson must be 'off the beam.'"

On April 23, 1964, the FBI re-interviewed Mack Blaney Johnson:

During previous interview Johnson picked face photograph of JACK RUBY out of two other pictures as person he knew in Florida by the name of JACK RUBENSTEIN. On April 23, 1964, group of photographs containing full length and face photographs of RUBY were displayed to Johnson. Johnson picked out several photographs as people he thought he had seen before. He picked out both photographs of RUBY as someone he thought he had seen before. He was asked to identify the person, but he could not do so. When finally it was pointed out to him that these were photographs of JACK RUBY he became quite nervous and stated that he possibly did not recognize them because he always saw JACK RUBENSTEIN dressed in a suit and the pictures of RUBY show him dressed in casual clothing...however, although he could not go on the witness stand and state that he was sure they were identical he believes they could be. Johnson also stated that he has never suffered from emotional illness or never been treated for the same. Concerning Browder as W/M, 33-35, (10 to 12 years ago) good looking, 5'9", 155 lbs, black hair, full head of hair, sometimes wore mustache, no glasses, neat dresser, carried German Lugar pistol...Johnson stated Browder was called Don and Eddie and Don Eduardo, but was not of Latin descent. He had no known occupation, but believed Johnson to be smuggler. Johnson stated he saw him a dozen times; several times at Eric Johnson Enterprises, a machine shop located in Miami. He stated Johnson is now in Nassau, Bahamas, and would definitely know Browder, but is not sure if he would know JACK RUBENSTEIN...Johnson does not recall where he first met Rubinstein, but saw him about half dozen times, twice at the Colonial Inn, and once at Sunny Airport. Johnson never saw Browder and JACK RUBENSTEIN together, but heard both mention the other, and believed they were acquainted. JACK RUBENSTEIN was not married. He was not a pilot and did his alleged gun running by boat...In view of Johnson's inability to identify a photograph of RUBY as JACK RUBENSTEIN, and his nervous state when it was pointed out to him his lack of identification, Atlanta feels that Johnson originally furnished this information, not being sure of it and is now reluctant to back away from his original statements. He was given every opportunity to do so, but still maintains he may be correct in his identification. Atlanta recommends that this phase of the investigation be discontinued in as much as all other investigation has failed to back up any of Johnson's story... If Dallas, however, feels that this

must be pursued, Atlanta recommended interviewing Browder and Eric Johnson. [FBI 44-1639-4963]

Mack Blaney Johnson furnished an accurate description of Edward Browder. The FBI could not intimidate him for very long, and in the end he stuck to his identification of JACK RUBY as JACK RUBENSTEIN.

#### EDWARD J. BROWDER

On April 23, 1964, the FBI located Edward J. Browder and interviewed him. Edward Browder denied knowing RUBY, Mack Blaney Johnson, Clifton T. Bowes or Leslie Lewis. He said he had heard of Joe Marrs, but never met him. He also said he did not know a Donald Edward Browder. Donald Edward Browder was known as "Don" Edward Browder among the Cubans he worked with - "Don" as in "Mafia Don," or "Don" meaning "Sir" in Spanish. Johnson thought his name was Donald Edward Browder.

The FBI closed the investigation into Mack Blaney Johnson's charges. On April 30, 1963, the FBI discussed the Mack Blaney Johnson matter with the CIA: "FBI Agent said that this charge regarding RUBY sounded like a lot of nonsense, *that the FBI has received many allegations of this sort*, regarding RUBY, which have proved to be without foundation. I replied that since the FBI used an informant symbol for this information we have no way of determining the veracity of the source." [CIA 674-297]

#### WHO WAS EDWARD BROWDER?

Edward J. Browder was born on June 22, 1917, in Amarillo, Texas. The father of Edward J. Browder was Secretary-Treasurer of the Santa Fe Railroad. In March 1942 Edward Browder enlisted in the Army. In November 1942 he was an applicant SO Detroit, Michigan. In February 1943 he was an applicant at the CAA in Washington, D.C. In April 1943 he was a pilot in the SOS Army. In 1944 he worked with British Security Co-Ordination in New York where he was a civilian pilot trainee. HEMMING told this researcher: "He was hired for Latin American operations by William Stevenson, the famous 'Man Called Intrepid.' Hoover allowed the Brits to operate in Latin America." In 1944 Edward Browder became a volunteer pilot for the Royal Air Force.

In 1947 Edward Browder stole a cache of machine guns from an Army base located at Augusta, Georgia. A Federal Warrant was signed that charged Edward Browder with theft of government property and ordered his arrest. After Edward Browder was taken into custody on April 24, 1947, he told the authorities that he was involved in a conspiracy to overthrow President Romulo Betancourt of Venezuela. In December 1947, a Federal Grand Jury in Tulsa, Oklahoma, indicted Browder for unlawfully having exported a P-38 airplane from Tulsa to Havana, Cuba. On February 9, 1948, Browder was charged with conspiracy to smuggle arms from Florida to Cuba, arms which were destined for a revolution in the Dominican Republic against General Raphael Trujillo. A Cuban Government official was named as the instigator of the plot. In March 1948, he

was charged with organizing and expedition against a friendly power, from Miami, Florida.

The judges in Miami and Tulsa gave Edward Browder probation, but the judge in Georgia gave him 18 months. Edward Browder served one year in prison and was released in September 1949. Edward Browder returned to Miami, then began to travel around America, getting arrested in 1951 in Los Angeles for bad checks, Denver in 1952 (Inv Fug), and in Tulsa in 1953 for bad checks. In 1954 Edward Browder was involved in PB SUCCESS and was not arrested in the United States that year. The son of Edward Browder, Joseph Browder, was contacted in July 1993. Joseph Browder:

He was one of the people who provided training and some operational support for the air part of the operation. My dad got shot down in that operation. And when the surviving members of the Jacobo Arbenz Government fled, they took some prisoners with them. My dad was in an unofficial prison that the Mexican Government let the Guatemalan exiles run in Mexico. My father was one of the people who worked for the Agency who wound up doing as much free lancing as he was doing Agency work. He spent many years in prison.

Edward Browder returned to Miami in 1957 and worked with the 26th of July Movement. He was arrested three times that year.

## THE STOLEN CANADIAN BONDS

In 1959 Edward Browder was arrested for possession of \$136,000 worth of stolen securities. The FBI was informed by Gene Kligmann that Paul Stevens had attempted to sell his stolen bonds. The FBI contacted Paul Stevens who agreed to set Browder up. The FBI reported:

At approximately 11:05 a.m., March 2, 1959, Stevens and Browder arrived at Mr. Ford's office on the second floor of the First Federal Savings and Loan Bank in downtown Miami. Behind Ford's desk at the time was SA John P. Lenihan, who posed as Mr. Ford. Also in Ford's office at this time was SA Charles Edmiston, who posed as Stevens' contact, Tony, and SA Robert James Dwyer, who posed as Tony's principal, Mr. Martinez...During the course of the negotiations, SA Edmiston asked Browder if his Canadian bonds were counterfeit, to which Browder replied, 'No, they sure aren't.' SA Edmiston stated if the Canadian bonds were hot they believed they could probably get rid of them through their banking contacts in Cuba. To his, Browder replied, 'Uh, huh,' At one point in the negotiations Paul Stevens stated, referring to Browder's bonds, 'already got his bonds, whether they're hot, cold or indifferent, I don't know, I presume they are warm -- I figure they're a little on the warm side.' Browder did not reply to this comment, and in the course of the negotiations, admit the bonds were stolen.

Browder was placed under arrest. The FBI found the telephone number off Morris Ernst in Browder's wallet. The law partner of Morris Ernst represented Frank Costello. [Thomas, E. *The Man to See* 1991 p92] The FBI also examined Browder's brief case and found more bonds along with a "cocked and load nine millimeter automatic." The FBI found Browder's passport and it indicated that he visited Italy and Zurich, Switzerland, on numerous occasions. The FBI reported:

En route to the FBI office, Browder made the statement he hoped there would be no publicity on his arrest because he pointed out the newspapers consider him a very colorful character and usually embellish his bouts with the law. He stated if he was immediately freed of this charge, the bonds were returned to him, and no publicity resulted from his arrest, he would be willing to cooperate to recover additional bonds. Special Agent Lenihan asked Browder how many additional bonds he thought he might be able to recover and his reply was that he had 80% to 85% chance of recovering \$1,770,000.00 worth of Canadian bonds. Special Agent Lenihan queried Browder as to how he might draw out these additional bonds and Browder stated he would have to think about it for a while.

Browder told the FBI that he did not know that the bonds were 'hot.' Browder declined to state where he got the bonds. When Browder was shown photographs of the men suspected of having stolen the Canadian bonds Browder "examined these photographs rather flippantly and often made comments about several of them, ridiculing their facial characteristics, but would not admit being acquainted with them." When the FBI searched Browder's home on March 2, 1959, the FBI found a "contract between Edward Browder, Miami, Florida, President of the Caribbean Development Corporation, and Fidel Castro of the Revolutionary Force of the 26th of July, in which Browder agreed to deliver a 'certain quantity of material,' the material was not named, 'on the high seas,' amounting in value to \$40,000."

Edward Browder claimed that the bonds did not come from the national crime syndicate. According to Edward Browder, the July 26th Movement had given him the stolen securities. The available evidence contradicted this. Edward Browder's associate, Paul Hickman, told the FBI that Vito Genovese, a nationally known hoodlum, had advised Edward Browder to "shut-up" about the origin of the bonds. Edward Browder told his business partner, Jesse Vickers, that "Cleveland mob people" were connected with the securities: "Browder mentioned that he was associated with some 'Cleveland people' who told him they did not want him to go to jail on this charge. Browder told Vickers he had told the 'Cleveland people' that Wilber [Browder's bail bondman] was pressing him for bond money and soon thereafter, the 'Cleveland people,' according to Browder, contacted Wilber to tell him not to bother Browder anymore regarding this matter." Jesse Vickers was arrested with Efren Pichardo in 1953.

EFREN PICHARDO



In 1954 Efren Pichardo was indicted in Miami, Florida, and charged with conspiracy to ship 30 M-1 rifles to Cuba on behalf of Carlos Prio Socarras. The charges were dropped after Efren Pichardo was indicted in New York, along with his boss, Carlos Prio Socarras. Efren Pichardo's co-defendants in this case included Marcos Diaz Lanz and Jesse Vickers. Carlos Prio Socarras had been indicted in December 1953 for the same offense. Contacted in April 1983, Efren Pichardo was in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he worked as a bailiff:

I used to know Carlos Prio, yes. Did I know Edward Browder? I think I did, but it's been such a long time ago. Yeah, I knew FRANK STURGIS, I think I was in the revolution with him. Okay, what do you want to know, sir? Who are you?

### SAM MANNARINO

During Edward Browder's trial he was asked if he knew national crime syndicate member Sam Mannarino. Edward Browder:

I was introduced to him by one of Carlos Prio's followers, on the assumption that Mr. Mannarino was going to supply some money for arms for some of the Cubans involved in fighting against Batista. I understood that this money came from sources that had gambling concessions in Cuba or slot machines in Cuba that he was trying to protect in the event that Fidel Castro overthrew Batista.

### JOSE ALEMAN

Jose Aleman was a witness against Edward Browder. He was asked if he had any knowledge of an arms deal where Edward Browder had been paid in stocks and bonds by the 26th of July Movement. Jose Aleman, who met Edward Browder in 1951 when both men were involved in smuggling arms to Fidel Castro, answered that he did not.

In April 1960 Edward Browder was convicted on two counts of having received and concealed stolen bonds. He received a three year sentence from Judge Emmett Choate. Judge Choate gave Edward Browder a week to "tie up loose ends" before sending him to prison. Edward Browder disappeared on December 20, 1961. The FBI began a fugitive investigation in the course of which they subpoenaed Edward Browder's toll records. The FBI discovered Edward Browder was in close contact with Dominick Bartone. In late 1959 Dominick Bartone and Edward Browder formed the Aero Ordinance Corporation, which allegedly dealt in government surplus. When the FBI questioned Dominick Bartone at his office in the Pan American Bank Building, Miami, he stated he did not know where Browder might be located, but he added if he did know where Browder might be located he would not advise any law enforcement agency of

Browder's whereabouts...Bartone pointed out that Browder had sued him in Federal Court in Miami in connection with money Bartone stated he owed Browder...Bartone pointed out he thought it was a very stupid thing for Browder to jump bond in this case since he only had a three year sentence to serve." [FBI Miami MM 87-8756 4.4.62 - Lenihan] Later in 1962 Edward Browder turned himself in and began serving his sentence.

A State Department airgram dated May 2, 1967, to the American Embassy, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, reported that on November 24, 1964, Edward Browder leased a military aircraft in the name of a fictitious company, flew the plane to Port-au-Prince, and left it there. The airgram reported that Edward Browder cashed a \$24,000 check signed by Clemard Joseph Charles.

### THE HSCA INTERVIEWS BROWDER

Edward Browder was interviewed by the HSCA in January 1978 at the Federal Penitentiary at MacNeill Island, Washington, where he was serving a 25-year sentence for securities violations. The HSCA reported:

During the interview Browder discussed a series of gun running and smuggling operations he was involved in during the 1960's that were intended to result in eventual overthrow, or assassination, of Fidel Castro. Browder said that his work included assistance by the CIA in the form of money and operations. Browder said that during that period he did purchase at least two B-25 planes to be used in 'smuggling operations' that would be used to assist the gun running and raids against Cuba. Browder said he could not recall where he bought the planes. However he said a man named Pedro Diaz Lanz flew one of the planes to him.

George DeMohrenschildt was linked to Clemard Joseph Charles, who was linked to Edward Browder. Edward Browder was linked with Pedro Diaz Lanz, who was linked to STURGIS and HUNT.

### BROWDER AND STURGIS

In 1978 I asked STURGIS if he knew Edward Browder. He answered he was "not sure." Joseph Browder told a reporter for the *Miami News* that his father had worked for STURGIS. When subpoenaed in the course of *HUNT v. WEBERMAN* Joseph Browder denied having linked the men. Joe Browder:

My dad was paroled in the early 1990's and arrested shortly thereafter when he landed a plane in one of the Mexican border towns. He was accused of flying drugs from one part of Mexico to another - grass. They

found microscopic marijuana traces. He was tortured by the Mexican Police, and he signed a confession. They stuck a 45 autoloader next to his ear and fired it and blew out one of his ear drums. The powder burn caused a cancer. He still has impressions on his legs from the cattle prods. He was in prison for a year, then exchanged back here. Our government modified his sentence under the sentencing guidelines to some outrageous number of years. He is out of prison now and living in Colorado. There were all sorts of people offering him deals to spring him from Mexico, but he would not talk about his associates. He is not someone who talks. He's still alive.

This researcher asked Joe Browder to put him in touch with his father. He contacted his father:

I spoke with dad. He had already read your book. He really enjoyed it. He's not giving you an interview. There's still too many people around who care. It's still not ancient history. It's not the CIA he is worried about...

The CIA's Office of Security files of Edward Browder were "inadvertently destroyed in 1979 after the moratorium was lifted."

#### ASSORTED HOODS WHO MAY HAVE KNOWN RUBY "RUBIN"

On November 25, 1963, (deleted as of 2010) advised

....during the later 1940's he knew of a racketeer named 'Rubin' around Daytona Beach, Florida, but knew nothing concerning his activities. Pictures of RUBY appear similar to Rubin as he knew him then. Informant suggested the following people should have complete knowledge of Rubin:

Mattie Tracy, Daytona, Florida, a bookie, gambler and prostitute procurer.

Johnnie Whalen, Daytona. If Whalen is still living, he is probably a night club operator.

M.T. Browning, Daytona, Police Department.

Tom Johnson, former Chief of Police South Daytona Police Department.

Informant advised above people, particularly Whalen and Tracy, were buddies of Batista of Cuba when Batista in this country. Informant also suggested Pitt Cole, Deland Fla, who operated gambling devices in Daytona-s largest night club and "Kitchin" former Chief Deputy Sheriff, Deland, Fla might also be familiar. [FBI Atlanta 44-1559-2]

## NORMAN ROTHMAN

Norman "Rough-house" Rothman was born December 26, 1914, in the Bronx, New York and died of a heart attack on October 13, 1985, (201-272262; OS #354 878). He was the son of Rumanian immigrants, both U.S. citizens. On December 26, 1936, he married Ethel Hurwitz. On September 29, 1941, Norman Rothman was an applicant for Naval Intelligence. On March 14, 1945, joined the United States Army. Norman Rothman was arrested in 1948 in Miami Beach on a charge of bookmaking. In 1951 Norman Rothman came to the attention of the Senator Estes Kefauver and was arrested several times on gambling violations. In December 1952 Rothman was charged with operating a gambling house in the Hotel Albion in Miami Beach, Florida. In 1952 he moved to Cuba and managed the San Souci Casino with SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr. In 1956 Norman Rothman was charged with Interstate Transportation of Gambling devices when the FBI intercepted a shipment of his slot machines on their way to Cuba. The charges were dropped after the machines were destroyed. Rothman told U.S. Attorney Guilmartin that "he had no intention whatsoever of violating Federal law and that it was his thought that he was permitted to send the equipment out of the country if he so desires."

## SAM MANNERINO

Sam Mannerino was involved with this shipment. Norman Rothman had become the slot machine king of Havana and was busily dividing up the rest of Cuba among follow gangsters like Mannarino. The FBI reported:

...Norman Rothman is subject of Miami file 92-1870. Rothman was born in New York City on December 26, 1914 and was active in gambling in the Cuban San Souci Nightclub and reportedly controlled all slot machines in Cuba except for those in Havana, prior to the Castro regime. Rothman's gambling activities in Cuba reportedly were backed by the Mannacine brothers from New Kensington, Pennsylvania, and Patsy Erra, Miami Beach, Florida, all LCN figures. Rothman was convicted in 1960 with others attempting to smuggle guns stolen from a National Guard Armory in Ohio to Cuba, and received a five-year prison term and \$10,000 fine. Rothman is reportedly an associate of Santo Trafficante, Jr. LCN figure from Tampa, Florida. Rothman is reportedly a representative of Patsy Erra and the gambling and shylocking in the the Miami area. Rothman has traveled extensively of late to Las Vegas, New York and New Jersey and has been reported in the past as a courier of funds for LCN figures.

Norman Rothman became the slot-king machine king of Cuba by going into partnership with the brother-in-law of Fulgencio Batista. The CIA reported "During the Batista regime Rothman was supervisor of slot machines in Camaguey province under the national supervisor, Alberto Ardura Moya, who was also one of the owners of the Tropicana nightclub in Havana." By 1956 Norman Rothman had a controlling interest in the Tropicana Casino. In 1958, Alberto Ardura awarded Rothman the concession to

operate slot machines in Oriente and Camaguey Provinces in Cuba. Adura told the FBI that in early 1959 he fled Cuba and came to Florida. He had about 300,000 Cuban pesos of his own, and had access to an aggregate of eight million Cuban pesos belonging to Mrs. Fulgencio Batista. Adura was an associate of General Roberto Fernandez Miranda, who was the brother-in-law of Batista. The CIA 20I file on Norman Rothman reflected that he first came to CIA attention in 1958 when he was residing in Dallas, Texas.

### THE CANADIAN BOND HEIST

In 1958 Norman Rothman spent considerable time in the United States. On May 3, 1958, \$13.5 million in registered bonds, bearer bonds, cash and jewelry was stolen from Brockville Trust and Savings Company, Brockville, Ontario, Canada, by Rene Martin and four companions. Beside the open vault police discovered Rene Martin's bankbook. When Martin was arrested police found a key on his person that opened a lock with the rest of the registered bonds taken in the heist. Martin did not reveal the names of his accomplices and was sentenced to twelve years in prison. Montreal investigators focused on Rene Martin's associate, Giuseppe (Pepe) Cotroni, eastern Canadian rackets figure. When narcotics agents seized Cotroni, they found \$10,000 worth of the bonds.

### ROTHMAN'S PLAN TO AID 26<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY MOVEMENT

In August 1958, Nick Jerome, an associate of Norman Rothman, contacted Jose Aleman "late at night and said that it was urgent for Aleman to come with Jerome. Aleman accompanied Jerome in a car to Rothman's residence in Surfside, Florida. Rothman had several hundred Cuban pesos in various denominations. Rothman stated that these pesos were 'phonies.' He proposed that Cuba be flooded with a quantity of these pesos in order to destroy the Cuban economy and hasten the downfall of the Batista Government. Aleman stated that these Cuban pesos looked authentic to him, and that some appeared to be well-worn pesos. Rothman claimed that some of these pesos had been aged to make them look authentic. Rothman said that he would provide millions of such pesos to the 26th of July Movement in return for a small percentage. Aleman, who was not in the 26th of July Movement which was headed by Fidel Castro, told Rothman he would contact appropriate revolutionary leaders to see if they were interested in Rothman's proposition. Aleman sent word to Jose Lanusa, Chief of the 26th of July Revolutionary Movement in Miami, who rejected to proposal. No one else was interested."

### JOSE ANTONIO LANUSA

Jose Antonio Lanusa was an associate of Edward Browder. [FBI Miami 87-8756 2.23.62 George E. Davis] This was the same Lanusa who has been mucking about with the DRE in previous nodules.

### WEAPONS FOR CASTRO

On October 14, 1958, about 317 weapons were stolen from a National Guard Armory at Canton, Ohio. On November 4, 1958, a plane load of guns piloted by Stuart Sutor of Hialeah, Florida, was tracked on radar by the Border Patrol flying from Pennsylvania to West Virginia where the soldier-of-fortune was arrested. The weapons stolen in Ohio were recovered.

What had happened behind the scenes was this: Controni contacted Gabriel and Samuel Mannarino, racket figures in New Kensington, Pennsylvania. Gabriel and Samuel Mannarino contacted Norman Rothman who rented a plane for \$6,000 to run the guns, and contacted Joseph Merola, a close associate of Carlos Prio. Merola's job was to fly to Pittsburgh to contact Gabriel and Samuel Mannarino's boys about shipping guns to Cuba.

Rothman lined up William W. Rabin to handle the finances. Rabin set up a Swiss Bank account and posted the stolen securities as collateral for a loan. [*Miami Herald* 3.13.60] Others involved included Austin Young, who was in contact with Rabin and Rothman, and Paul Bert Hickman, an associate of Edward Browder.

#### JOE MEROLA

Joseph Raymond Merola (201-257804 born October 9, 1925), was a gun-running pilot linked to Edward Browder. Joseph Merola served in the Marines from 1941 to 1945. In the late 1950's he ran arms to Fidel Castro. The CIA described him as a "fast dealer with connections at all levels in many foreign countries. His information is usually very good. He was Batista's personal pilot and was right next to Fidel Castro at the time of the take over." In March 1959 Joseph Merola was involved in an invasion of Panama from Cuba. In May 1959 he was involved in a plot to counterfeit Cuban currency. In February 1961 he was restricted to the Miami area following his conviction on charges of theft of arms from a National Guard Armory. On February 15, 1964, a cleared police contact advised the CIA that three men who had been caught stealing dynamite claimed it was stolen on behalf of Kubarker Joseph R. Merola. The CIA declared that Joseph Merola was not an agent, only a informant: "In an occasional contact of our overt office in Miami since 1961." In November 1972 Joseph Merola began serving a one year sentence for petty larceny in New York City. In November 1974 Joseph Merola was indicted by a Los Angeles County Grand Jury for stock manipulation and fraud. In December 1974 PHILLIPS sent a telex to an unnamed component about Joseph Merola:

1. Regarding Joseph Raymond Merola [201-257804] U.S. citizen please inform DEA the following: Joseph Raymond Merola, an occasional contact of our overt office in Miami since 1961, periodically provides that office with foreign positive intelligence information. It is suggested that the FBI be contacted for additional information.
2. DEA Headquarters has informed BKHERALD June 1974 that Merola was of operational interest. They requested traces and stated he

reportedly worked for BKHERALD in late 1950's. We replied that Mr. Merola had never worked for BKHERALD although we were aware that he had made such claims on number of previous instances.

3. Headquarters relaying for Station use only 20664, January 11, 1974 and Director 502254, January 17, 1974, which reports derogatory information on Merola.

4. Merola being processed in the ISR as DEA source. Will advise when registration completed.

5. Please advise local DEA Orlando Batista Viera's occupation as detective is included in category whose operational use is prohibited throughout the intelligence community and ISR policy precludes his registration. However, emphasize to DEA that this fact not intended to prohibit their use of the Subject. Batista will be recorded as contact of DEA in BKHERALD files in case any other U.S. Government agency expresses operational interest. DEA Headquarters is being informed of above.

6. The following may be passed to DEA. Batista was born July 10, 1933, Havana, Cuba. Was in Cuban Navy. Arrived in U.S. in early 1960's as exile. Subject was in prison several months in 1959 in Cuba accused of being member of Batista's Armed Forces and having idea opposed to Castro revolution, subsequently released. Subject of operational interest to BKHERALD in 1963 to 1964; interest dropped in 1964 and Subject terminated without prejudice. Ask (Deleted) to refer to FBI for more info on Subject.

7. FYI only: POA granted 1963 for Subject's use in PM boat operations; however, POA canceled when he claimed he was unable satisfactorily treat his seasickness. In 1964 Subject interviewed by FBI in Los Angeles, California, regarding group of Cubans in Miami involved in drug operations. Subject revealed his BKHERALD connections to FBI.

8. File: 200-11-11/19; 201-740127; 201-257804.

\*Requested priority traces on Merola and Batista. DEA Sources and register in ISR.

(DCD/OSS (Telecoord) December 6, 1974.

Unit: LA/NARC/LA/CAR DAVID A PHILLIPS C/LA LA/NARC (Deleted)  
DDO/NARCO (Deleted) LOSN/ISR (Deleted) C/LA/CAR.

The CIA considered using Merola as a source of information on developments in Beirut. [JMWAVE Cable 2.15.64; CIA Index Cards on Merola - type is so small it is unreadable;

MFR 12.2.74 9-28-49; To: Director Domestic Contacts Service. From: Chief, Miami Field Office 11.20.72 MIN-181-72; Outgoing Message 630872]

Joseph Merola reported to Herbert J. Miller of the Criminal Division of the Justice Department.

### ROTHMAN' S INDICTMENT

On January 2, 1959, Norman Rothman flew to Havana. On March 27, 1959, Rothman was charged with violating the National Firearms Act. On April 9, 1959, Rothman was arrested for violation of the National Stolen Property Act in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and on June 30, 1959, Rabin, Controni, Rene Robert, Sam Marrarino and Norman Rothman were indicted in United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division for arms smuggling and stolen securities charges. [59CR374 Luis Kutner, Counsel] In July 1959 Rothman was charged with interstate transportation of stolen property and conspiracy. S.A. George Davis of the FBI observed Rothman when he left for Mexico from Miami on December 10, 1959, in the company of Richardo Madan Rivas, a gun-smuggler. In late 1959 Norman Rothman helped Fulgencio Batista establish headquarters at the Biltmore Terrace Hotel on Miami Beach. Norman Rothman managed the Biltmore Terrace. His associates included Rolando Masferrer and Orlando Piedra. At this time Norman Rothman supplied anti-Castro groups with stolen arms.

Rothman was convicted in February 1960 with others attempting to smuggle guns stolen from a National Guard Armory in Ohio to Cuba, and received a five year prison term and \$10,000 fine. [FBI HO 165-689]

Sam Mannarino was interviewed by S.A. John S. Portella, who had been acquainted with Sam Mannarino for the past ten years:

Mannarino predicted that 30 days after Merola is released from Federal Prison, he will be murdered. Mannarino stated that he wanted the record to show that he himself was not going to kill Merola and probably would have nothing to do with his murder. Merola's testifying as a Government witness, however, would raise serious doubts and concern in the minds of several people that Merola has been involved with over them over the past five years. It would be one of those persons who probably committed some crime with Merola, according to Mannarino, who would wonder when Merola was going to testify against them. It would therefore be one of these former associates who would probably kill him. Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice by memorandum dated April 26, 1962, referred to Joseph Merola and advised that on April 13, 1962, a petition for executive clemency, together with his recommendation that petition be granted, was forwarded to pardon attorney Reed Cozart. [FBI CG 87-11127]



## ROTHMAN AND STURGIS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD April 25, 1975

SUBJECT: ROTHMAN, Norman

SF# 354 878

201-272262

4. In September 1960, Norman Rothman, free on a \$50,000 bond from a conviction of theft and transportation of firearms, approached FRANK STURGIS, SF #353 459, and offered to obtain from Cuba two MIG aircraft. Norman Rothman claimed he could induce the defection of a Czech pilot and a Cuban who would fly the MIGs to the U.S. At the time, it was believed that Rothman was either offering assistance to the U.S. Government for a profit motive, or perhaps in an effort to reduce, or alleviate, his sentences under federal convictions. It was not clear from file information what, if any, further contact with Rothman took place regarding the proposal outlined above." [CIA MFR 4.25.75]

5. A memorandum dated April 30, 1961, reflected that a WH Officer met with Rothman in June 1961 in the office of the Deputy Attorney General. The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate Subject's claims to operational assets inside Cuba and elsewhere in Latin America. Among Rothman's claims were the following:

(1) That he has assets that would allow him to destroy Cuban arms dumps in Mexico. (2) That he could offer and operational base in the Yucatan peninsula.

(3) That he had personnel and capabilities to conduct sabotage inside Cuba.

(4) That he had a basic plan for the assassination of Fidel Castro.

Norman Rothman expressed resentment against federal charges against him for gun-running activities and stated he was being prosecuted for the same activities which were being conducted by the CIA.

6. The meeting between the Western Hemisphere Division Officer and Rothman had been apparently set up by a political figure in Democratic Party from North Carolina and apparently was a thinly disguised effort to track Rothman's services to the CIA in return for dropping federal charges against Rothman. The WH officer was not satisfied as to the capabilities claimed by Rothman and recommended no further contact with Rothman along these lines. The 201-file on Subject contained no indication as to whether Rothman was contacted again, or utilized in any way subsequent to the June 1961 conversation.

7. A form dated January 17, 1975, categorizing the Subject's 201 file, reflected Rothman's status with the CIA as 'former witting collaborator (relationship terminated). [CIA F81-03510653]

8. Office of Security indices reflect a file in the name of one Roberto Ramino Fernandez Miranda (SF# 353 706) which indicated that Subject was identical to Rothman's associate in the hotel in Miami Beach.

10. It is obvious from the foregoing that information contained in file sources pertaining to Subject and Fernandez was fragmentary and incomplete. File sources have reflected, however, that Rothman and Fernandez were involved in business together in the Miami area and that both were involved to some degree in anti-Castro activities of a revolutionary nature.

The FBI reported:

Rothman this afternoon [June 26, 1961] furnished the following information re Latin Matters. Having operated San Souci gambling casino and other interests in Cuba for many years prior to the Castro regime, Rothman expressed deep concern about Communist takeover in Cuba and advances made by them in other Latin American countries. Stated On, Norman Rothman told the FBI that if the United States would give him a free hand, he would be in a position to procure Fidel Castro's liquidation and his top Communist echelon in Cuba and to engage in similar activity in other Latin American countries threatened by Communism. Claimed to be personally acquainted with Lombardo Toledano, Mexican pro-Communist labor leader and former Mexican President Lazaro Cardenas, who is regarded as pro-Soviet and anti-US. Claimed he could capitalize on these acquaintances to obtain valuable information. Said has great many Cuban friends both inside and outside of Cuba and that many frequent his bar at Bel Aire hotel, Miami Beach, that some were killed or captured during the April 17 Liberation Attempt and he wanted to avenge them. When asked why he had not previously offered his cooperation concerning this matter, Rothman replied that the Communist situation had never been so serious before. When queried re his motive, Rothman frankly stated he could not perform these services for the U.S. if he was serving time in jail, referring to his Pittsburgh conviction on case involving conspiracy to transport stolen guns interstate commerce stated that even though the Supreme Court denied his appeal he still has two other legal recourses. Re NIXON – Rogers matter. Rothman said that in 1951 last payment was stopped on a couple of checks accepted at the Sans Souci gambling casino totaling a few thousand dollars, drawn on a California bank, as he recalls listed maker as L. B. Smith. Said that Senator Robert Taft, Tom Dewey and other prominent Republican opponents of NIXON obtained wide publicity regarding these checks, claiming that NIXON has

actually lost this money at Rothman's gambling casino in Havana, that checks were drawn on NIXON campaign fund. Stated columnist Drew Pearson published considerable data regarding this. To avoid embarrassing NIXON Rothman went to Sao Paulo, Brazil, until publicity subsided. Sometime later a Congressman named Johnson from California thanked Rothman for not testifying against NIXON. About February 1960 after his Pittsburgh conviction on conspiracy ITSP other defendant was released on bond but Rothman was detained briefly by USA Teitlebaum who told him that Attorney General Rogers wanted to talk to Rothman in Washington, D.C. Claimed that USA did not explain purpose of conference but Rothman presumed it related to NIXON matter described above as a Washington lobbyist told Rothman about this same time that Rogers was trying to locate some papers Rothman had. Rothman said he declined to go to Washington to see Rogers unless all the other defendants in the Pittsburgh case could accompany him, which was not acceptable to Rogers. Rothman several times emphasized his desire to cooperate with US Government was limited strictly to Latin American and Communist matters but he would never inform on any of his hoodlum associates. Miami investigation regarding Cuban activities reflects Rothman's bar at Bel Aire Hotel is popular hangout for many Cuban exiles and that he is acquainted with many and has befriended some. Rothman expressed criticism of CIA and State Department but indicated friendly attitude toward FBI. It is felt that Rothman has no unusual potential as PSI or CI at this time. [FBI 97-4030-18, 20]

In the course of investigating Rothman, the FBI spoke with Pedro Diaz Lanz who told the S.A. George E. Davis "that he never heard of any transaction involving the use, purchase or sale of any Canadian bonds for any such purpose, and that the July 26th Revolutionary Movement was never involved in any arms purchases involving large sums of money such as \$100,000. or more. Most of the purchases were of a minor nature." [FBI Miami 87-8756 2.2.62] The FBI questioned Tony Varona about Rothman on February 24, 1962. Varona said he had heard of him but had never met him. [FBI Miami 87-8756 2.23.62 George E. Davis]

The FBI also questioned Rufo Lopez Fresquet on February 24, 1962. During the course of *HUNT v. WEBERMAN* in Miami, FRANK STURGIS was asked if he knew Norman Rothman. STURGIS: "I have come across him on the Beach with my Cuban friends. Just 'Hello Goodbye, Have a drink" and then leave. That's it." Rothman went to prison in Atlanta, Georgia, on August 28, 1961. In 1973 Rothman pleaded guilty to income tax evasion in the Southern District of Florida for which he was sentenced to two years and 18 months. In December 1976, a Chicago newspaper reported that Joe Merola had received more than \$50,000 in 1975 alone, for furnishing information to the Illinois Bureau of Investigation. In 1975 Rothman's conviction in the Canadian bond case was vacated on the basis of the fact that Rothman was not informed that Merola was an informant for the FBI and CIA. [*Miami Herald* 2.20.77]

The bond heist was touched off when the Canadian branch of the mafia received a hurry up order from the Caribbean for arms for the 26th of July Movement. When Fidel Castro began guerilla warfare against Fulgencio Batista, Norman Rothman and some hoods from Pennsylvania felt they needed some kind of insurance against an unfriendly revolution. Despite their close association with Batista, they smuggled arms to Fidel Castro. Norman Rothman, Mannarino and Controni were closely associated with Edward Browder, who was linked to JACK RUBY. Sam Mannarino's bonds came from the same Canadian bank as Edward Browder's. Mannarino, Rothman and Edward Browder's wife, Lilyan Martin Browder, had the same dentist, Dr. I. Fredrick Stang.

### THE ACTIVITIES OF JACK "RUBENSTEIN"

Leon Hubert wrote:

The probability that RUBY was involved in illegal activities in Cuba prior to 1959...is supported by the statement of a Delta Airlines employee in New Orleans who recalled that about seven or eight years ago, RUBY flew from New Orleans to Havana. This airline employee stated that he overheard RUBY telephone his club in Dallas and state that his trip to Cuba was being paid for by someone else, and that no one should be advised of his whereabouts. [Memo Hubert & Griffen to WC 3.20.64]

State Department documents revealed that in 1958 "JACK RUBENSTEIN wrote a letter requesting permission to negotiate the purchase of firearms and ammunition from in an Italian firm."

### BROWDER AND ITALIAN ARMS DEALS

The FBI reported that "Elum Addie Cuadell, wire service operator, Miami, Florida, and business contact of Ferrara, said he introduced Ferrera to Browder December 31, 1958, in connection with an arms deal in Italy." [FBI Miami 87-8756] In January 1959 Edward Browder traveled to Italy to negotiate the purchase of 5,000 Thompson submachine guns. This surfaced during an FBI interview with Paul Bert Hickman.

Paul Hickman stated Edward Browder had told him about an arms deal in Italy...Edward Browder was in contact with someone in the United States who was trying to buy these guns and sell them to one of the Caribbean leaders or ex-leaders. Paul Hickman stated he heard some Americans went to the Dominican Republic in early January 1959, and made a deal where a combining of General Raphael Trujillo; Anastasio Somoza; Juan Perone exiled former leader of Argentina, and Fulgencio Batista, exiled former leader of Cuba, were to put up a \$1,000,000 slush fund to buy weapons to conduct a war against some of their enemies in the Caribbean. Though Edward Browder had not told him who wanted the

arms, his theory is that either this group wanted to buy them, or Marcos Jimenez Perez, exiled former leader of Venezuela, now living in Miami Beach, wanted to purchase them...Paul Hickman pointed out that during the row between Batista and Castro in Cuba, Edward Browder was allegedly trading with both of them, both allegedly found out about it...For that reason he does not believe Edward Browder dares go to Cuba...Paul Hickman related that about midnight on March 5, 1959, he got a phone call from Edward Browder, who appeared to be somewhat excited. Edward Browder told him to get dressed and come over to Edward Browder's house right away, as it was very important...They related to him that at about 11:00 p.m., March 5, 1959, a man visited their house unannounced. He stated he was sent by 'Genovese' from New York City and was told tell the Browders they should shut up about the origin of the bonds, and to tell everyone else concerned to shut up about the bonds, less they meet with foul play from the 'syndicate.' [FBI 87-8756 - 3.26.59 Miami interview with Hickman]

In 1972 Hickman received a 10 year sentence for defrauding a car dealer out of a new Lincoln automobile by giving him a bad check and causing him to travel in interstate commerce from Alabama to Georgia in violation of federal law.

"JACK RUBENSTEIN" was mentioned in a 1959 Department of the Army Report concerning U.S. Arms Dealers in Scandinavia: "A JACK RUBENSTEIN is listed as a representative of the Saunders Company in the U. S." [CIA 85-31; 843-361; 1215-442; 1211-44OA; CIA Disposition Index p283, 288, 156; WC C0294bsc; DOS Memo for Chayes from OS 11.24.63 #0178; ltr. from R.A. Ericson Dep.Dir.Pol-Mil. Affairs 4.14.77; Dept. of Army H. 10.29.76, 12.3.76 from USAIA] In 1976 this researcher attempted to obtain copies of the Office of Munitions Control and Army Intelligence Reports under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The Army conducted a thorough search of its files and checked all reports in its possession on "JACK RUBY" and "JACK RUBENSTEIN." No report that dealt with arms trafficking was uncovered. The State Department responded that "while the existence of the letter may have been known in 1963, we are now unable to locate it." It suggested the letter might be in the inactive files at the Office of Munitions Control but demanded a \$2000 fee for "a search involving 15,000 documents."

There was reason to believe that the CIA was aware of "JACK RUBENSTEIN" and his activities. In its letter to the Warren Commission regarding "Information concerning JACK RUBY (aka JACK RUBENSTEIN)" the CIA stated: "Examination of CIA records failed to produce information on JACK RUBY or his activities." The CIA had information that RUBY used the alias of "Abe Rubenstein."

#### JAMES E. BEAIRD

In 1976 James E. Beaird told the FBI that in 1957, he became acquainted with many people in the area of Kemah, Texas, including one JACK RUBY, who was at that time

"involved in the business of selling guns to Fidel Castro in Cuba...Jack stored guns and ammunition in a two-story house between the waterfront and railroad tracks in Kemah. He would take the guns to Cuba mostly on weekends. Jack had a boat about 50 feet long, surplus, a military landing craft or LST." [FBI Phoenix 89-42, 6.7.76 at Apache Junction, Arizona] In 1977 this researcher called James E. Beaird and asked him how he became acquainted with RUBY:

Playing poker. What I can't understand - this seems a little out of line. Well there was enough people like myself who know all about this. The doggone thing is that he was so open with it. Why nobody came forward with this information beats me. RUBY never talked about Castro. The boat would get loaded and RUBY would leave by car. It was a well known fact the boat was headed to Cuba.

#### OKLAHOMA STATE CRIME BUREAU

In 1958 a former member of the Oklahoma State Crime Bureau linked an "Abe Rubenstein," owner of the Carousel Club in Dallas, to a carload of guns and ammunition destined for Cuba. [FBI El Paso 44-274, 4.14.64; WCDS56]

JAMES WOODARD  
MARY THOMPSON

In June 1958, RUBY sent arms to Cuba via Islamorada, in the Florida Keys. He was accompanied by a sleazy looking blonde.

The FBI reported:

On December 2, 1963, Mrs. Mary Thompson, 1155 Dupont, Kalamazoo, Michigan, advised S.A. V. Lemar Curran that in May 1958 she and her daughter Dolores, and son-in-law Richard Rhodes, visited her brother and sister-in-law, James and Mary Lou Woodard, at Islamorada, Florida. While there they met JACK and Isabel (LNU) who lived in a small motel in Islamorada. JACK appeared to be hiding from something and she saw him only at night. Dolores and her husband spent the first night in a room at JACK and Isabell's motel. James Woodard reportedly was a member of the Dallas, Texas, Police Department for a short time, about 1954, and James Woodard had known JACK in Dallas. Mary Lou Woodard told Mary Thompson that JACK'S real name was Leon and he was not married to Isabell. They had been in Islamorada (illegible) JACK was originally from Chicago, and reportedly killed a couple of men. JACK ran a drinking place in Dallas and there had been a knifing in his place. She said JACK had a trunk full of guns and inferred that JACK was going to supply them to the Cubans. Mrs. Thompson stayed at Islamorada one week only and had not seen JACK or Isabell since. Mrs. Thompson observed Subject's

photograph on television and she believes Subject is identical with the JACK (LNU) she observed in Islamorada, Florida in 1958...

### DOLORES THOMPSON

The FBI reported:

On December 2, 1963, Dolores Thompson, whose marriage was subsequently annulled, advised that the Associated Press photograph in the November 25, 1963, issue of *The Kalamazoo Gazette*, resembles JACK (LNU) who had a small motel in Islamorada, Florida, in June 1, 1958, except JACK had a full head of dark brown hair and was darkly complected. She was told that JACK and Isabell had been there two weeks, and that James Woodard had met JACK in Texas. JACK was from Chicago and she was led to believe that he was part of the 'Syndicate.' James Woodard said JACK had a lot of guns but Woodard was drunk at the time. [FBI 44-24016-308]

JACK drove a grey car with Texas plates.

### THE ROUSES

The FBI interviewed Willa Mae Rouse, the sister of James Woodard. She told the Bureau she saw her brother on November 25, 1963, at her home in Knoxville. He said he had a job at a zinc mine in Mascot, Tennessee. Willa Mae, and her husband Ed,

...both state that James Woodard not always truthful and that his sister, Mary Thompson, Kalamazoo, Michigan, also prone to make up stories. Both state in their opinion Mary Thompson insane. Willa Mae states James watched television with her on November 24 last, date Subject shot OSWALD. States she asked James if he had ever met RUBY or OSWALD since she knew James had previously lived in Dallas and states James said he did not know either one. Mr. and Mrs. Rouse both of opinion James would have readily admitted knowing RUBY or OSWALD if he had ever met either of them.

### WHO WAS JAMES WOODARD?

The FBI reported:

Records of Knox County So, Knoxville, reflect James Woodard arrested October 14, 1963, on basis of three Grand Larceny warrants issued Dade County, Florida, that date. Appearance bond of James Woodard executed October 16, 1963, by local bonding company with extradition hearing set for December 10, 1963, next. Records Knox County Attorney General

reflect Tennessee Governor has signed extradition papers for James Woodard and he will be returned to Dade County, Florida, if located.

There was also a warrant out for the arrest of James Woodard in Zapata, Texas.

#### CARL C. WOODARD

The FBI interviewed the brother of James Woodard, Carl C. Woodard, who said he has not seen his brother since October 1953, when he stole his car and machine tools.

Carl stated James visited Carl's home previously, in his absence during July 1962, accompanied by a young pre\1\5 female. They had in their possession a late model white Cadillac convertible...Carl's children located a gun in the glove compartment of the Cadillac during this visit...Carl pointed out that he has a strong enmity for his brother and would attack James on sight. He also advised that he never knew James to reside in Dallas, Texas, or has he ever heard that James had worked as a policeman. He stated James came to Michigan in 1953 from San Antonio, Texas.

The FBI interviewed Paul A. Woodard, another of James Woodard's brothers. He said he had not seen James Woodard since 1948 except for one night.

The FBI interviewed the father-in-law of James Woodard, Leonard Shives. Leonard Shives said that his son received telephone calls from James Woodard on a regular basis and he was certain James Woodard would call in the next few days. [FBI 44-1639-1350]

#### W.R. SIMONS

The FBI located Mrs. W.R. Simons, the former wife of James Woodard. She stated that

...she and her former husband, were at Islamorada, Florida, for approximately two months during the Summer of 1958. She was introduced by James to a JACK (LNU) and Isabell (LNU). She said she did not specifically recall where she was introduced to JACK and Isabell, or where they were residing in Islamorada. She said she did not recall any information while at Islamorada from James or from anyone else concerning any guns, connections with Cubans, or that JACK owned a bar in Dallas, Texas. She could only recall that JACK reportedly originally came from Chicago. Mrs. Simons was shown a picture of JACK RUBY and she could not identify JACK RUBY as being identical with JACK (LNU) met at Islamorada...Mrs. Simons said she had no indication or information that she has ever met JACK RUBY.



Mrs. W.R. Simons said it was unlikely that her former husband would contact her, because there was a local warrant out for him for failure to pay child support. [WCE 3096 p118]

Mary Thompson was exhaustively re-interviewed. The FBI admitted:

Thompson is employed as a housewife and during interview did not give appearance of making up a story, or in need of psychiatric treatment. Information furnished by Mary Thompson was corroborated in most details by Dolores Thompson, who is employed as manager of the (illegible), a health club."

The Thompsons had no criminal record with the Kalamazoo, Police Department. [FBI-44-24016-581]

James Woodard and his exploits were well known to Wallace Shanley. Information on James Woodard in his FBI file appeared to have been referred by U.S. Customs. The FBI: "Knoxville files reflect James Woodard, FBI #255317, is Subject of Miami file 52-1944, and has in past been known to carry a .38 caliber revolver and has violent temper when drinking. Refer." Another document read:

Files of the Knoxville Office reflect James Woodard, FBI # 255 317 A had been the subject of previous FBI investigation. An official of the U.S. Customs, Miami, Florida, stated Woodard should be considered armed and dangerous as he carries a weapon and has a violent temper with drinking. When interviewed at Knoxville, September 27, 1963, and September 30, 1963, James Woodard stated he had in the past participated in a Cuban invasion prior to the Castro regime, that he participated in the Bay of Pigs invasion and furnished ammunition and dynamite to both Castro and Cuban exile forces. James Woodard's statements were at the time rambling and were not always coherent. Woodard again interviewed Knoxville, October 8, 1963, 3,150 pounds of Atlas dynamite abandoned at his residence South Dade County, Florida, which dynamite was stolen from Chastine Construction Company, Terrytown, Florida. Woodard claimed above amount of dynamite stored at his residence by Cubans to be used by Cuban exile forces against the Castro regime. [FBI Knoxville 44-383 12.4.63; WCE 3065; FBI 44-24016-1019]

The FBI did not interview James Woodard. On January 23, 1964, an order went out from the SAC, Dallas, to "discontinue active investigation to locate James Woodard...it is believed extensive investigation to locate James Woodard is not warranted." [FBI 44-24016-1019] The FBI was afraid to interview Woodard. He was an unpredictable drunk who might have said that he knew JACK RUBY. Then where would that have left the FBI? With three witnesses to RUBY'S arms smuggling. HEMMING told this researcher: "We worked with Woodard's brother on parachute jumps."

## ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION: STURGIS / RUBY

The Rockefeller Commission admitted that STURGIS and RUBY moved in the same circles:

An example of the testimony relating to an alleged relationship between the CIA and JACK RUBY consisted of a statement that FRANK STURGIS was engaged in a series of revolutionary activities among Cuban exiles in the United States in the 1950's and the 1960's, and that the CIA also sponsored and organized anti-Castro activities among Cuban exiles in the United States in 1959 and the early 1960's. In addition, it was alleged that FRANK STURGIS was at one time Fidel Castro's Director of Games of Chance in Havana, and that in August or September of 1959, JACK RUBY made a trip to Havana at the invitation of a friend who had interests in Cuban gambling establishments. Moreover, both STURGIS and RUBY were alleged to have connections with underground figures who had interests in the United States and Cuba. From this group of allegations, the witnesses inferred that STURGIS and RUBY could have met and known each other - although no actual evidence was presented to show that RUBY or STURGIS ever met each other. Even if the individual items contained in the foregoing recitations were assumed to be true, it was concluded that the inferences drawn must be considered farfetched speculation insofar as they purport to show a connection between the CIA and either OSWALD or RUBY. Even in the absence of denials by living persons [STURGIS] that such connections existed, no weight could be assigned to such testimony. Moreover, STURGIS was never a CIA employee.

HUNT hinted that STURGIS might have known RUBY:

Did the mafia order RUBY to kill Oswald? Again I think it is possible because otherwise we are floundering around trying to figure out a motive for RUBY to go ahead and do what he did. At that time I don't think he knew he had terminal cancer which would have been something that would have passed across his mental scanning. Has it ever been proved that he was under orders from the mob? He ran sort of a tawdry nightclub and he had to get the financial backing for that from somewhere and he hired these dancers and so forth. He needed money and there is no evidence that he ever earned much money which to start his nightclub. It seems to me that what I know what I presume of the Mafia he would have been a very weak reed for them. He was comparable in a way to FRANK STURGIS; he was a willing ally in almost anything. If somebody told JACK to this he would do it, if somebody told FRANK to do this he would do it. So that they were equal forces. I don't think that they ever knew each other but I think they were of a type and it has always been alleged that STURGIS was once in the mafia and that he associated with people who

were of that nature. Many theories circle around Sturgis's possible connection with the Mafia. Frank was not a man without a history. He had owned and managed clubs in Virginia Beach, ran guns to Cuba, volunteered for a couple of Central American revolutions, from which he extracted himself without injury, and acted as a petty thief for the Mafia before he eventually straightened out to some extent. Some journalists have connected him to Meyer Lansky and Santos Trafficante, which is entirely possible. He was an amazing individual who could and did pop up in the strangest places when you least expected him.

There's only one problem with that scenario [the Mafia ordered Ruby to kill Oswald scenario]. No one has ever talked. With all the top-level Mafia figures—capos, hit men, godfathers—who have been arrested and flipped or sent to jail and written books from within the witness protection program, wouldn't someone have used the JFK knowledge as a get-out-of-jail-free card or a ticket to fame and fortune? Even Deep Throat has finally confessed! The Mafia failed to kill Castro and probably wouldn't have been very adept at a complicated scenario like the Dealey Plaza operation, either. Most hits they accomplished were either brutal assaults in a controlled environment, such as a neighborhood street or a restaurant, using massive firepower, or the quick kidnapping and disappearance of a rival. Mafia hit men were not adept sharpshooters using high-power rifles. Also, they probably would have preferred doing the hit in a town where they had more knowledge of the terrain, such as New York or Chicago.

#### LOUIS J. McWILLIE

Thanks, in part, to the efforts of gangsters like RUBY, Fidel Castro was soon able to out-gun Fulgencio Batista. In September 1958, three months before Fidel Castro took power in Cuba, Lewis J. McWillie moved to Havana. Lewis J. McWillie worked as a pitboss in the Tropicana Casino. The mob knew Batista was doomed and it needed men like Lewis J. McWillie, whose associates, such as JACK RUBY, had supplied Fidel Castro with arms, to smooth over the inevitable transition, and to protect its interests. The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about his association with Norman Rothman.

Q. Do you know a Mr. Norman Rothman?

A. I know him to see him.

Q. Have you ever met Mr. Rothman?

A. It was in Cuba, yes. He'd come in and out of the Tropicana every once in awhile. He come up and introduced himself to me and shook hands with me. I'd see him gambling there when I'd go around to different places.

Q. Did you ever have any discussions with Mr. Rothman?

A. No.

The FBI reported that investigation by a confidential source reflected that "McWillie solidified his syndicate connections through his association in Havana Cuba, with SANTOS TRAFFICANTE, well known syndicate member, from Tampa Florida; Meyer and Jake Lansky; Dino Cellini and others who were members and associates of the syndicate."

The HSCA asked Lewis J. McWillie about a possible association with TRAFFICANTE.

Know him to see him. He knew who I was and he shook hands with me when he saw me, but that was it, I've been asked that a lot of times, too. But I didn't know Mr. TRAFFICANTE intimately, no. Maybe Pedro Fox introduced us.

The HSCA asked Lewis J. McWillie about Meyer Lansky: "I never laid eyes on him in my life. I know his brother, knew his brother, Jake. Very fine man. I might have met him through Dino Cellini. Mr. Lansky was around the Riviera, I don't know if he operated it or what but he was there."

Lewis J. McWillie told the HSCA that RUBY had nothing to do with his employment situation in Cuba:

A fellow named Joe Williams called me from Cuba and asked me if I'd be interested in going over there to work and I set up an appointment and went there and talked to them and then went back to Dallas and went back to Cuba in about a week, I believe. I don't know what Mr. Williams did, to tell the truth. I went to see the Foxes. The Foxes were *the only* owners of the Tropicana. Martinez Fox promised me a percentage of the Tropicana if it ever did any business. That was right at the time of the revolution. The Foxes *didn't need any financial backing*. They had a big business that made nothing but money for years and years. They had the numbers and every other thing.

The numbers or, "bolito" was controlled by TRAFFICANTE. The Foxes were also controlled by TRAFFICANTE.

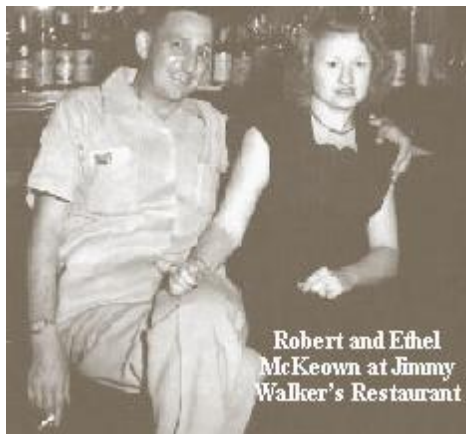
SANTO TRAFFICANTE, JR.



Just before Fidel Castro took power on January 1, 1959, Fulgencio Batista flew to the Dominican Republic. When Fidel Castro entered Havana angry Cubans ransacked many mob owned casinos. One of Fidel Castro's first decrees ordered all the casinos padlocked. Cesar Blanco

stated that on January 13, 1959, "both Lansky's attended a meeting with SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr. a known narcotics operator who took over Lucky Luciano's operations. Blanco said he took action against them and tried to get them deported from Cuba, working with Interpol. On June 2, 1959, Blanco told Pella he received a letter from the U.S. Consul General (or U.S. Embassy) in Havana informing him that the U.S. Government would protest if Lansky were deported. Blanco also had a visit from a Vice Consul named Kessler who verbally told him the same thing. When Blanco informed INTERPOL they replied by letter that the Cuban Government would lose their confidence if Lansky was not deported. Fidel Castro, upon hearing this, gave instructions to Blanco not to deport Lansky or SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr. Blanco said to Pella that he feels this gambling group has offered to financially assist the new government-in-exile set up in New York under Mario Garcia Kohly." [U.S. Gambling Syndicate Interest in Cuban Matters.] After this meeting, SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr., was arrested as was Jake Lansky. Jake Lansky was released in a few hours, only to be rearrested. A week later (January 20, 1959) the Lansky brothers escaped to Florida. They had been too close to Fulgencio Batista to ever be trusted by Fidel Castro. Many other hoodlums, such as Norman Rothman and Charlie Tourine, were not arrested and remained in Cuba. Meyer Lansky and CARLOS MARCELLO attempted to free TRAFFICANTE. The syndicate wanted anyone who could influence Fidel Castro to intervene on TRAFFICANTE'S behalf. [NY Post 2.17.59; NYT 2.21.58; Time 1.12.59]

#### ROBERT RAY McKEOWN



Robert Ray McKeown (born January 28, 1911; died October 1980, SS # 460-01-8019) ran a coffee processing plant in Santiago, Cuba, with the blessings of President Carlos Prio Socarras. When Carlos Prio Socarras was overthrown by Batista in 1952, Robert Ray McKeown tried to restore him to power. In late 1952 Robert Ray McKeown was the Subject of an FBI Neutrality Act Investigation in connection with his having smuggled arms to the forces of Carlos Prio Socarras within Cuba. In 1956 Robert Ray McKeown lived in Miami, having been deported by Fulgencio Batista. In Miami, Robert Ray McKeown was involved in gun-running ventures aimed at the overthrow of the Batista regime. The FBI learned that the 26th of July Movement planned a raid on Cuba from Texas, and that arms had been shipped to Robert Ray McKeown. In 1957 Robert Ray McKeown piloted arms-laden ships from Kemah or Seabrook, Texas, to a drop off point in Mexico. Fidel Castro's forces landed the *Granma* and picked-up the arms. On February 18, 1958, the San Antonio FBI office provided information that Robert Ray McKeown had purchased a yacht. U.S. Customs seized this vessel for having smuggled guns while it was cruising to Houston from Paterson, Louisiana. [HSCA V9 para. 1808, 1105-1152; WCD7972]

On February 25, 1958, Robert Ray McKeown was charged with conspiracy to smuggle guns and related equipment to Castro forces in Cuba when an Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent raided the home of Robert Ray McKeown and discovered a small arsenal. The FBI: "Houston will note in case entitled 'CARLOS PRIO SOCCARRAS, ET. AL. FPM - CUBA' (Houston file 109-7) Robert R. McKeown, Galena Park, Texas, and others were arrested by police and later prosecuted by U.S. Customs, for possession of arms and conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act. In this case (deleted) was in Houston and had considerable contact with (deleted) and others involved. (Deleted) but is presently out of town. On his return he will be contacted again concerning this matter." [FBI 44-1639-4195]

Eight months later Robert Ray McKeown was given a 60-day sentence and five years probation. Shortly after this arrest and prior to his sentencing, Robert Ray McKeown and Mr.(FNU) Jarrett formed a partnership and opened the J & M Drive-In on Red Bluff Road in the vicinity of Kemah, Texas. Carlos Prio Soccarras funded this venture with a loan.

#### ROBERT RAY McKEOWN, RUBY AND THE JEEP DEAL

In January 1959 RUBY contacted Robert Ray McKeown and asked him "to get three individuals out of Cuba who are being held by Fidel Castro." RUBY offered Robert Ray McKeown \$15,000, and said that the syndicate would be grateful for his help. One week later, RUBY and Robert Ray McKeown had a meeting near Kemah, Texas. RUBY asked Robert Ray McKeown for a letter of introduction to Fidel Castro. [WCE 1689] Robert Ray McKeown did not voluntarily give this information to the FBI after RUBY shot OSWALD. After RUBY spoke of an individual "in the vicinity of Houston" who had run guns to Fidel Castro, the FBI contacted Robert Ray McKeown.

On January 28, 1964, Robert Ray McKeown told the FBI that about a week after Fidel Castro came into power Anthony Ayo, a Houston patrolman, personally informed him that someone from Dallas had called the Sheriff's office looking for him. Robert Ray McKeown told Anthony Ayo to give the caller the phone number of the J & M Drive-in. When questioned by the FBI, Anthony Ayo confirmed Robert Ray McKeown's story. How did RUBY know that Anthony Ayo knew Robert Ray McKeown? Robert Ray McKeown said that an hour later a "JACK RUBENSTEIN" from Dallas called and offered McKeown \$15,000 to help release three prisoners from Castro's jails. JACK RUBENSTEIN stated that someone in Las Vegas would provide the money. Three weeks later RUBY showed up at the J & M in person, offered Robert Ray McKeown \$25,000 and stated he had access to a large number of jeeps in Shreveport, Louisiana. When McKeown demanded \$5,000 in advance, RUBY left, never to return. Robert Ray McKeown said the deal was never consummated. When interviewed by Gaeton Fonzi in 1976, McKeown added that RUBY told him that aside from jeeps, he had access to slot machines in New Mexico. RUBY mentioned that he knew some members of the mafia in Cuba, and he spoke with McKeown on three occasions.

Justice Warren asked RUBY: "There was some story in one of the papers that you had been interested in shipping jeeps down to Cuba. Was there anything to that at all?" RUBY answered:

No; but this was the earlier part, when the first time Fidel Castro had ever invaded Cuba. There was even a Government article that they would need jeeps. I don't recall what it was, but I never had the facilities or the capabilities to get jeeps. But probably in conversation with other persons - you see, it is a new land, and they have to have a lot of things. As a matter of fact the United States Government was wanting persons to help them [kill Fidel Castro] at that particular time when they threw out the dictator, Batista. And at one particular time there was a gentleman that smuggled guns to Castro...I think his name was Langley or Longly out of Bay - something - Texas, on the Bayshore...He was given a jail term for smuggling guns to Castro. This is in the early part of their revolution...I think he had a boat and he lived somewhere in Bay something, Bayshore, in the center part of Texas... [FBI 44-1639-3913; WCE 1688]

#### "DAVIS"

When RUBY first contacted Robert Ray McKeown he told him that he thought his name was "Davis." RUBY allegedly told Tom Howard (his first lawyer -deceased) that he had intended to begin a regular gun-running business with a "Davis." When the FBI asked Robert Ray McKeown about "Davis" in 1964, he told them he knew no-one by that name. Dallas Assistant District Attorney William Alexander reported he had learned RUBY had contact with a "Davis," described as an ex-convict from Beaumont, Texas. William Alexander stated that he understood FBI, Houston, had handled investigation of this person resulting in his conviction for gun running activities. The Houston FBI reported that it could not locate an ex-convict named Davis, and determined that RUBY meant Robert Ray McKeown.

#### THOMAS ELI DAVIS

Seth Kantor reported that in June 1958, a

Thomas Eli Davis attempted to rob a bank in Detroit for which he served five years probation. In September 1960 the probation supervision of Thomas Eli Davis was transferred to the Federal probation office in Beaumont, Texas. His probation was terminated on February 21, 1962.

[CE1688; 44-1639-3913; Seth Kantor, *Who Was JACK RUBY?* Everest House 1978]

The HSCA discovered a FBI report dated June 25, 1963, which linked Thomas Eli Davis to a HEMMING/STURGIS type operation: In May 1963 Thomas Eli Davis placed an advertisement that offered employment to men who wished to go to Haiti to overthrow "Papa Doc" Duvalier. The FBI, through liaison, asked the CIA if this was one of its

operations. The CIA denied it. The wife of Thomas Eli Davis told an official of the State Department that her husband was a soldier-of-fortune who had worked in Indochina, Indonesia, Algeria and Cuba. [HSCA V9p183] In early November 1963, Thomas Eli Davis and his wife left the U.S. for Tangier, Morocco. In December 1963 the Moroccan National Security Police, through Interpol, informed the State Department that Thomas Eli Davis was being held on the basis of an attempted sale of a firearm to a minor. When the Moroccan Police searched Thomas Eli Davis, the police found "a letter in his handwriting which referred in passing to OSWALD and to the Kennedy assassination." The letter was addressed to attorney Thomas G. Proctor. Thomas Eli Davis was killed in September 1973 while stealing copper wire from an abandoned rock crusher site in Wise County, Texas. He was accidentally electrocuted. Ruby could have known Thomas Davis of Beaumont, Texas, however, Davis is a very common name, especially in Texas. Seth Kantor also claimed that QJ/WIN (Mankel) bailed Thomas Eli Davis out of jail in Morocco, which was unlikely. Perhaps RUBY referred to Howard Kenneth Davis? Howard K. Davis, however, worked out of Miami.

#### ROBERT RAY McKEOWN'S HSCA TESTIMONY

When Robert Ray McKeown testified before the HSCA he took the Fifth Amendment until he was granted immunity. Robert Ray McKeown added that he was visited by OSWALD and a mysterious pro-Castro Cuban. They wanted 300 submachine guns. Through the years the details of his story changed so frequently that Robert Ray McKeown almost earned a perjury citation from the HSCA. McKeown:

RUBY says I will give you \$25,000 if you write me this letter where you will acknowledge that I am a friend of yours and have done business with you and things of that sort...He asked me all about where I had been with Castro and how we had talked, and he kept after me about how many arms are there, and were there two million worth...then he came back and we would talk about what warehouses I put the guns in, and who all helped me haul them out to his house...he came back and I told him I had the letter written...I had all of this written down but somebody burned down my house and I lost it...He said he knew the mafia, he said he had connections. He said 'You don't have to worry about money, I have good connections.' He asked me if I was familiar with Ponce Club in Miami, where all the Latins congregated.

Robert Ray McKeown was quizzed about his various associates:

Purdy: How did you hear of Sam or Joseph Campisi?

McKeown: Through Prio. He said they were good people, they were on our side. I presumed that he was working with him, I do not know.

Purdy: Did you know Joe Merola?



McKeown: Yes...he would come to me and tell me where guns would be.

Purdy: Have you had any connections which you later found out been with the CIA?

McKeown: Yes, I later found out, but I did not know...I met him at a club...I did not know him from Adam and he commenced telling me about Castro, he was over there in the mountains with Castro...he said that Castro had it in for him and that he did not want to go to Cuba.

Purdy: What contact did you have with Castro after he took power?

McKeown: Some friends of my brother were fishing and the Cubans confiscated their boat and brought them to Cuba. My brother came to me and told me these three guys were real good friends of his and they were innocent. So he asked me if I could help get them out of Cuba. This was quite a while after he was in power, maybe 1965. Four or five of the so-called mafia under Batista that ran the casinos came to me and wanted me to try and help them get back over there...they wanted me to go and try to get them to open the Americana again and the Sans Souci and all of that...this was a couple of months after he took power...one of them was Italian. They had all been forced to leave Cuba.

Purdy: Was SANTOS TRAFFICANTE one of these individuals?

McKeown: No.

Purdy: Do you know CARLOS MARCELLO?

McKeown: No.

Purdy: Do you know FRANK STURGIS?

McKeown: *I seen him one time over at Prio's house.* But I did not have any dealings with him whatsoever.

Purdy: Do you remember any of the names [of the mafioso who approached you]?

McKeown: It seemed to me that one of them was named *Matthews*, but I am not sure he was connected with the Tropicana. Maybe he was connected.

Purdy: When did you first meet Mr. Castro?

McKeown: I met him in the Shamrock Hotel in Houston. I think it was in 1957, Prio was with me. I didn't have an opportunity to speak to him alone, he was in a hurry to go out to the Murchisons.

### GATLIN AND THE JEEP DEAL?

An article dated January 1968 in *Ramparts Magazine* written by William Turner linked Maurice Gatlin with RUBY in a jeep deal. According to Jerry Milton Brooks, the deal was scotched when Maurice Gatlin warned RUBY and Robert Ray McKeown to call it off.

In February 1959 SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr. was still in jail. Then Fidel Castro revoked his order closing all the casinos and freed TRAFFICANTE. This was when Fidel Castro made STURGIS Minister of Games of Chance. In late February 1959, Meyer Lansky returned to Cuba. On March 1, 1959, Cuba's casinos reopened to skimpy crowds. [*Time* 3.2.59; How Castro Double Crossed The Mob, Jack Anderson, *Parade* 4.28.63]

### RUBY'S MEETINGS WITH THE FBI

On March 11, 1959, RUBY met with FBI S.A. Charles W. Flynn. S.A. Flynn stated RUBY offered the FBI his services as a criminal informant. S.A. Flynn questioned RUBY about bank robberies, major thefts and the like. RUBY was unable to supply S.A. Flynn with any information on these cases. [FBI 44-24016-1138; FBI 44-24016-1180; FBI-62-109060-7394; *NYT* 5.13.70; William Scott Malone, The Secret Life of JACK RUBY, *New Times*, 1.23.78.] RUBY bought \$500 worth of miniature wire recording equipment [FBI 44-1639-1358] and rented a safe deposit box before speaking with S.A. Flynn.

RUBY tape recorded his meetings with the FBI and hid the tapes in his safe deposit box in case the mob accused him of being a snitch. The second RUBY/Flynn meeting occurred on April 28, 1959, the same day that Robert Ray McKeown was embracing Fidel Castro at an airport in Houston, Texas. Fidel Castro was going back to Cuba from Washington, D.C., when he encountered Robert Ray McKeown. McKeown: "There were some people who came to me and offered me quite a sum of money and told me that we believe that you are the only one who can really get close to Fidel Castro. And they wanted me to kill him." [HSCA V9 p702]

### RUBY'S TRIPS TO CUBA

In late May 1959, RUBY gave a slip of paper which contained a short written message in code which consisted of letters and numbers and the word "arriving" to Elaine Mynier, Lewis J. McWillie's mistress, just minutes before she left for Cuba. When Elaine Mynier gave the message to Lewis J. McWillie he told her that RUBY was "nuts" to have entrusted her with something important. After the assassination Elaine Mynier told the FBI about the incident. [FBI DI-44-1639 FD-302 with Mynier 11.26.63 San Fran., 11.24.63 at San Fran.] In November 1963 Elaine Mynier claimed she had been raped by two San Francisco Police Department officers, a case which received considerable

local publicity. Lewis J. McWillie denied using her as a courier, and said if he wanted to get in touch with RUBY he would have telephoned him.

On June 1, 1959, TRAFFICANTE was rearrested by the Castro regime on the basis of a telegram from Harry Anslinger. [HSCA V5 p294] The Cuban Cabinet ordered the deportation of TRAFFICANTE due to his having been involved in heroin trafficking. RUBY'S next meeting with S.A. Flynn occurred on June 5, 1959. On June 18, 1959, RUBY had another meeting with S.A. Flynn. The next RUBY/Flynn meeting occurred on July 2, 1959. RUBY'S fifth meeting with S.A. Flynn took place on July 21, 1959. S.A. Flynn filed a standard report. He had questioned RUBY about several bank robberies which RUBY said he had no knowledge of. S.A. Flynn rated his informant as "good."

### THE FBI DROPS RUBY

In late July, Curtis Lynam, the SAC of the Dallas FBI Field Office , received information that something wasn't *kosher* about RUBY. Curtis Lynam sent RUBY'S prints to FBI Headquarters so that he could get RUBY'S rap sheet. S.A. Flynn's next meeting with RUBY took place on August 6, 1959. On August 18, 1959, TRAFFICANTE was released. According to data obtained by the Cuban Government, Dino Cellini had a sister who worked as a typist in the White House. The sister of Dino Cellini solicited the aid of Senator George Smathers in obtaining TRAFFICANTE'S release. Senator George Smathers got the American Consulate in Havana to contact the Cubans with information that there were arrest warrants out for TRAFFICANTE and Dino Cellini in the United States. [Information supplied HSCA by Government of Cuba] RUBY'S seventh meeting with S.A. Flynn took place on August 31, 1959. By this time S.A. Flynn had received word from his superior to dump RUBY. S.A. Flynn countered: "While RUBY has not furnished any positive information to date, there is no indication of emotional instability or unreliability. It is recommended Potential Criminal Informant be continued."

### RUBY'S TRIPS TO CUBA

RUBY told the Warren Commission that he went to Cuba for eight days in August or September 1959, for a vacation. Lewis J. McWillie told the Commission:

In 1959 I wrote JACK and asked him to come to Havana for a week. There was no ulterior motive. I extended this invitation as one would to a brother. I sent him a round-trip ticket. He came into the Tropicana and we had a few drinks together. He was like any other tourist - he didn't have any connection with Castro or Batista supporters. [FBI CO-11516; WCE1545; WCE1546]

### OTHER SHORT TRIPS TO CUBA

Immigration and Naturalization Service records indicated RUBY flew to Havana from Miami on the night of September 12, 1959, and returned to New Orleans on September 13, 1959. [Memo Hubert & Griffen to WC 3.20.64] RUBY visited Major William Morgan and HEMMING, who were considered close to Fidel Castro, in his effort to secure TRAFFICANTE'S release. HEMMING told the HSCA:

I met RUBY in September or October 1959, at William Morgan's house in Cuba. Ruby had sold inferior jeeps to the Cuban Air Force, and Morgan had a few choice words about them. They were filmed by Clete Roberts of Channel 13 in Los Angeles.

HEMMING told this researcher:

JACK RUBY was with Morgan in the latter part of 1959. He was by Morgan's place. It was a mish-mash of people trying to get a meeting with Fidel. They were clamping down on the casinos. RUBY got to Cuba after FRANK had left and gone to Miami with Pedro Diaz Lanz. RUBY was on the periphery of the MARCELLO deals that they're trying cut with the new Cuban Government. To them it's just a new fucking banana republic government. Deals were going sour. We're talking about a three or four day period in late 1959. RUBY became the clean-up guy in the Kennedy assassination.

Marita Lorenz stated: "It is possible I saw RUBY with...Oh, God I am going to get killed, Charlie, Charlie 'The Blade' in Cuba. Charlie Tourine, Delmonica White, who is a friend of mine." [Depo Lorenz USDC Miami - 76-1252-Div-EBD]

RUBY returned to the United States via Miami, where he met with Louis J. McWillie's associate, Meyer Panitz. In January 1964 Meyer Panitz told the FBI RUBY was in Cuba in "the Summer of 1959," contradicting RUBY'S story of only one visit to Cuba in September 1959. [WCE1773, 1774; FBI LV-44-48 1.10.64 Las Vegas, DC-44-1639] A few days after RUBY returned to the U.S. he was seen by three Chicago businessmen in the Tropicana Casino in Havana. Jay Bishov, an attorney, Jack Marcus, and Sherwin Braun, told they FBI they visited Havana "for three or four days about September 1, 1959, as it was Labor Day weekend in 1959. Jay Bishov stated that the second or third night in Havana, he Sherwin Braun, and Jack Marcus, were standing near a crap table or roulette wheel at the Tropicana night club when a man approached and introduced himself by a name which Jay Bishov believed was JACK RUBY." RUBY said he was originally from Chicago, but had moved to Dallas. He invited them to visit him at one of his night clubs in Dallas. "Bishov stated RUBY appeared to know his way around the Tropicana, and may have been familiar with some of the employees." None of the men would positively identify RUBY from the FBI's photograph. [FBI 44-24016-167]

STURGIS AND McWILLIE

In 1974 Michael Canfield asked STURGIS if he knew JACK RUBY associate Lewis J. McWillie, when STURGIS was Minister of Games of Chance. He answered: "Yeah, that name is very familiar - I forgot what he is or who he is, but McWillie, yes. I am not sure if I knew him later in Miami." During testimony in *HUNT v. WEBERMAN*, STURGIS was asked:

Q. Do you remember a pit boss named McWillie?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know him later in Miami?

A. I'm not sure.

### THE FOX BROTHERS

Congressman Ford asked RUBY: "When you got to Havana who met you in Havana?"

RUBY: McWillie. Now here is what happened. One of the Fox brothers came to visit me in Dallas with his wife. They came to the Vegas Club with Mrs. McWillie, and we had taken some pictures, 8X10's. Evidently the Foxes were in exile at the time, because when I went to visit McWillie, when he sent me the plane tickets, they looked through my luggage and they saw a photograph of Mr. Fox and his wife. They didn't interrogate, but they went through everything and held me up for hours.

Ford: Castro employees?

RUBY: Yes, because in my ignorance I didn't realize I was bringing a picture that they know was a bitter enemy. At that time they knew that the Fox brothers weren't going to jail, or something was going to happen. Whether it was they were in exile at the time I don't know. But they came to my club, the Vegas Club, and we had taken pictures. McWillie was waiting for me and he saw me go through the Customs line for a couple of hours, and he said, "JACK, they never did this to anyone before." Evidently, they had as pretty well lined-up as to where I come in the picture of Mr. Martin Fox. *I can't think of his name.*

Ford: You spent eight days in Havana?

RUBY: Yes, approximately. [I stayed at] Volk's apartments. I never used the phone. I wouldn't know how to use the phone...my dinners were served in the Tropicana. One thing I forgot to tell you - you are bringing my mind back to a few things - the owners, *the greatest* that have been *expelled from Cuba* are the Fox brothers. They own the Tropicana...they

are in Miami, Florida. They know everything about McWillie, I heard, *and know the officials*. [STURGIS?].

#### FRONT MEN FOR TRAFFICANTE: THE FOX BROTHERS

The Pedro and Martin Fox (Pedro: born NY October 24, 1909, died May 1973; Martin: born November 15, 1915, NY died September 1979) were front men for TRAFFICANTE and nominally owned the Tropicana. The FBI:

"This place is supervised by Dino Cellini who is the floor manager and supervisor. The Tropicana is owned by a Cuban named Martin Fox and his connections with American hoodlum elements are unknown although it is to be noted that Dino Cellini has been connected with gambling at Tropicana for many years. With reference to the possibility that gambling in Cuba is controlled by a syndicate headed by Meyer Lansky or other individuals, it is noted that DINO CELLINI, who has operated the gambling casino at the Tropicana for many years, is also running the gambling casino at Oriental Park Race Track. His brother, EDDIE CELLINI, has been placed in the casino at the Hotel Nacional as a floor an in the gambling room. Also, Information has been received from Lt. HERIBERTO HERNANDEZ of the Cuban National Police that the license for operating in the gambling casino at the Sans Souci had been issued by the Cuban Goverflont to OSCAR ECHEMENDARIA, who is an associate and director of the Tropicana Night Club. It appears likely, therefore, that there is some sort of tie-in between at least four of Havana's gambling casinos. This matter is being followed, and the Bureau will be kept advised.

HSCA Chairman Stokes questioned TRAFFICANTE: "You did know Pedro and Martin Fox?" TRAFFICANTE: "Pedro Fox, yes sir, all I know is that Mr. Martin Fox, who was the owner of the Tropicana and one of the richest men in Cuba, he died in the United States in the 1960's. I think, and he died completely broke. And Pedro Fox was working as a waiter and maitre d' in all the restaurants and hotels around Miami." [HSCA V9 p67] STURGIS testified during the course of *HUNT v. WEBERMAN* that he knew the Fox Brothers. During another part of his testimony RUBY said:"...I had to buy a \$2 ticket, *a pass to get through Florida*." TRAFFICANTE controlled the numbers racket, which relied on small bets. It was popular among the Cuban exiles of Florida. RUBY clearly made more than one trip to Cuba. Ruby was acquainted with the Fox brothers, front men for TRAFFICANTE and evidence suggested that RUBY visited TRAFFICANTE in prison.

JOHN WILSON HUDSON

**JOHN [scels]**

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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TO : WHITE HOUSE ATTN: MR. MCGEORGE BUNDY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE ATTN: MR. U. ALEXIS JOHNSON  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FROM : DIRECTOR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONF: C/WH 4

INFO: DCI, D/DCI, DDP, C/CI 2, VR

CS COPY

DEFERRED  
ROUTINE  
IMMEDIATE

TO INFO CITE DIR **85657**

ON 26 NOVEMBER 1963 A BRITISH JOURNALIST NAMED JOHN WILSON, AND ALSO KNOWN

AS JOHN WILSON-HUDSON, GAVE INFORMATION TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN LONDON WHICH INDICATED THAT AN "AMERICAN GANGSTER TYPE NAMED RUBY" VISITED CUBA AROUND 1959. WILSON HIMSELF WAS WORKING IN CUBA AT THE TIME AND WAS JAILED BY CASTRO BEFORE HE WAS DEPORTED.

IN PRISON IN CUBA, WILSON SAYS HE MET AN AMERICAN GANGSTER GEMELER NAMED SANTOS WHO COULD NOT RETURN TO THE U.S.A. BECAUSE THERE WERE SEVERAL INDICTMENTS OUTSTANDING AGAINST HIM. INSTEAD HE PREFERRED TO LIVE IN RELATIVE LUXURY IN A CUBAN PRISON. WHILE SANTOS WAS IN PRISON, WILSON SAYS, SANTOS WAS VISITED FREQUENTLY BY AN AMERICAN GANGSTER TYPE NAMED RUBY. HIS STORY IS BEING FOLLOWED UP. WILSON SAYS HE HAD ONCE TESTIFIED ABOUT CASTRO ACTIVITIES BEFORE THE EASTLAND COMMITTEE OF THE U.S. SENATE, SOMETIME IN 1959 OR 1960.

CLASSIFICATION REVIEW  
CONDUCTED ON 24 MAY 1976  
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END OF MESSAGE

Document Number **206-83**  
for FOIA Review on APR 1976

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
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1995

D: 200-5-41

**JOHN [scels]**  
by authority of  
RICHARD HELMS  
DDP  
RELEASING OFFICER

CS COPY

201-289248

COORDINATING OFFICERS

~~SECRET~~

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On November 27, 1963, John Wilson Hudson (CIA 201-20397), contacted the American Embassy in London. He said he was imprisoned by Castro on July 1, 1959. While incarcerated John Wilson Hudson met SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr., who he described as a gangster. Around this time, John Wilson Hudson said that TRAFFICANTE was visited

by an American "gangster- type" named "RUBY." RUBY, who accompanied the person who brought TRAFFICANTE his meals to him, was identical to the JACK RUBY who shot OSWALD. [FBI 44-24016-29; 901, 255, 262; CIA 385-7369 206-83; NYT 4.22.59 p4, 7. 1.59 pl3; *Miami Herald* 7.1.59 p2A]

Carlos John Wilson Hudson was born in Liverpool, England, on December 29, 1918. He left his studies at Oxford University in 1936 to fight in the Spanish Civil War. John Wilson Hudson left the International Brigade and surfaced as an Axis agent. In 1939 he moved to Buenos Aires, Argentina, then to Santiago, Chile, where he married Elaine Bronfmann. In Santiago, John Wilson Hudson set up the Universal Peace Movement, a Chilean version of the America First Committee. The British Ambassador in Santiago requested his expulsion on several occasions. In the early 1950's John Wilson Hudson traded in copper, lead and sulphur. The partner of John Wilson Hudson in this enterprise was Heriberto Springwaller Einicke. Heriberto Einicke, a German, was a Colonel in the Nicaraguan Army in the late 1930's, but was expelled from the country after he ran afoul of the United States Embassy. A CIA report dated 1952 stated:

1. Source (deleted) GARA-7 is of the opinion that John Wilson Hudson is very probably an intelligence agent, and that he is under the direction of some service. There is no apparent reason for his great interest in the Yugoslav colony in Santiago nor can (Deleted) GARA-7 determine the source of Wilson's apparent income.
2. Despite the fact that most of what John Wilson Hudson says is patently rubbish and although it was reported in YCI-1556 that he was believed to be mentally ill (deleted) GARA-7 has been instructed to maintain contact with Wilson for the purpose of discovering what his objectives are and by whom he is directed
3. Any traces of John Wilson Hudson at Headquarters would be of assistance to this Station in pursuing this investigation.

A CIA informants' report of October 6, 1952, stated:

Carlos John Wilson, an Englishman by birth, but believed to be a Spanish citizen, was previously reported among other activities, as posing as an ex-RAF pilot and veteran of World War II. These activities came to the attention of the British Embassy in Santiago, and resulted in John Wilson Hudson's being twice warned by the Chilean authorities to cease this masquerading or leave the country...He also claims that at the close of the war he worked on a special mission for the British Government in Germany, Egypt, and Turkey [and] to have fought with the Spanish Republican forces against Franco...John Wilson Hudson is described as being very intelligent, astute, and well informed on current events. He is extremely sociable, friendly, a very heavy drinker and free spender.



In 1957 John Wilson Hudson reportedly worked for Batista.

An independent untested CIA source reported that during the first part of June 1959 Paul Hughes, an American soldier-of-fortune and associate of John Wilson Hudson, visited Cienfuegos, Las Villas Province, dressed in the uniform of an American Air Force captain.

## ANGLETON

ANGLETON assembled information on John Wilson Hudson:

A usually reliable source reported June 18, 1959, that Carl John Wilson, British journalist, sent a cable to the British Parliament and to the British Trade Union Federation saying that he had confirmed that the U.S. Military Attaches in the Caribbean were giving military advice to dictators. He protested in the name of humanity, saying that patriots were fighting for their sacred rights to be free citizens, and that American volunteers were helping the dictators with the approval of Washington. Source commented that Wilson, was planning on accompanying Mario Calero, Nicaraguan revolutionary who was readying an expedition against Nicaragua from Cuba.

Another report dated June 26, 1959, from a usually reliable source stated that Paul Hughes, an American soldier-of-fortune, claimed to have at his disposal three aircraft, including one bomber, and planned to launch in an attack on Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, during the weekend of June 27, 1959. Paul Hughes said that Carl Wilson, a British journalist, and about 65 volunteers would join in the attack. Source commented that Paul Hughes also vaguely spoke of possibly bombing Managua for the psychological effect. Hudson Wilson said that Fidel Castro had no knowledge of Hughes.

*United Press International* carried the story datelined July 1, 1959, from Havana, Cuba, saying that Police had raided a private home in suburban Biltmore the day before, and seized a large quantity of arms, and arrested three Americans and a Briton. The Americans were identified as Paul Hughes, an officer in Fidel Castro's rebel army, Efren R. Pichardo of Miami, Florida and Joseph Bardor, of Los Angeles, California. The Briton listed was Carl John Wilson. Seven military men and 11 civilians were held in connection with the plot.

On July 10, 1959, Wilson-Hudson, Captain Paul Hughes and Efren Pichardo were arrested after Castro's police detained 200 armed men just before they were about to board three aircraft, including one bomber, destined for Nicaragua. Paul Hughes, Efren Pichardo and John Wilson Hudson were accused of attempting to discredit the Castro regime. A year later HEMMING and William Morgan organized a similar bogus invasion. In July 1959 John Wilson Hudson told his Cuban interrogators he was a British

journalist, and was in Cuba a few days. He was an innocent bystander covering a news story. He went on a hunger-strike and had to be fed intravenously. The U.S. Army Attache in Havana, Cuba, reported July 30, 1959, that he had received the following note from Carl John Wilson:

Salvador Allende, (Communist-sponsored presidential candidate and Socialist Party member) brought a letter of definite instructions to Raul Castro (from Chile). This letter contains instructions from the Kremlin in Moscow and contains the signature of Pablo Neruda of Chile. It deals with definite instructions of anti-American agitation to commence next month in Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Cuba, Costa Rica, etc.

In September 1959 Wilson-Hudson testified before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee regarding communist influence in the 26th of July Movement. In September 1959 the FBI questioned STURGIS about former Castro officer Efren Pichardo.

A U.S. State Department cable from Asuncion, Paraguay, dated December 16, 1959, reported that "John Wilson correspondent for *North American News Service*, had informed the Paraguayan Ambassador in London on December 14 that within two days a cargo of 300 machine guns and 800 rifles were to be shipped to Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the direction of Fidel Castro. Wilson reportedly showed documents which proved his statement." [CIA CSCI 3/779,048 CHW/3/(SCELSO):jz Coord WE Division/Walsh x6660, RI, CILIA, CI/R&A, CI/ICG, WE/WALSH, WH/3 CWH/3 PROJECT NONE]

Wilson-Hudson died in Santiago, Chile, in 1964. The FBI classified several documents about John Wilson Hudson "Secret-Date of Declassification Indefinite."

### JOHN WILSON HUDSON AND THE HSCA

The HSCA attempted to verify or deny the allegations of John Wilson Hudson. The HSCA questioned the man who had been the warden at Tresconia Prison in 1959. He told the Committee that he could not recall the name John Wilson Hudson, but did remember a British journalist who had worked in Argentina. [HSCA R p173] In his own public testimony before the Committee, TRAFFICANTE denied that RUBY had visited him: "There was no reason for this man to visit me, I have never seen this man before. I have never been to Dallas, I never had no contact with him. I don't see why he was going to come and visit me." [HSCA V9 para. 710]

### McWILLIE ADMITS SEEING TRAFFICANTE IN PRISON

During the deposition of Lewis J. McWillie taken by the Committee in Las Vegas, Nevada, the question of a RUBY / TRAFFICANTE visit arose. Lewis J. McWillie equivocated: "I really don't know. It's possible he could have but I don't think, if he did he went with me and I don't recall it, but he could have. I don't know for sure." Lewis J. McWillie was asked: "You said you thought it was possible that someone had gone to

the prison with you." He responded: "It's possible that it might have been JACK RUBY...I spoke to Dino and Jake Lansky (at the prison). Just said 'Hello' to TRAFFICANTE. But I talked to Jake because Dino was a friend of mine."

The Committee questioned Lewis J. McWillie:

Q. Are you aware that Mr. TRAFFICANTE was imprisoned in Cuba?

A. Yes, there was a bunch of them imprisoned.

Q. Did you visit Mr. TRAFFICANTE in prison?

A. I didn't visit him, I went there once or twice to visit a fellow, he was a dealer. I went out there once or twice to see him.

Q. Did you see anybody also in prison?

A. I saw everybody out there. TRAFFICANTE I think he was in there.

Q. Did you see TRAFFICANTE?

A. I saw him but I didn't talk to him, I didn't know him that well.

Q. Do you know of anybody who did visit Mr. TRAFFICANTE in prison?

A. No, I don't, I went out there with someone but I don't recall who it was. *It may have been RUBY.* I don't think so. He could have been, but I don't think so.

The HSCA concluded that a meeting between RUBY and TRAFFICANTE was "a distinct possibility."

The FBI's investigation into the allegations of John Hudson Wilson ended on November 27, 1963. The FBI:

Wilson has been critical of the FBI in the past, and has displayed psychopathic symptoms. Arrest by Castro July 1, 1959. We have prior information JACK RUBY was in Havana, Cuba, in 1959. It appears there is nothing to be gained from additional contact with Wilson. Legat being advised in attached cable to conduct no further investigation relative to Wilson. I concur. Hoover.

## RAGANO



Trafficante toasts Carlos Marcello, left, and Frank Ragano, right, 1966.

On April 17, 1967, Frank Ragano told the FBI that "he had known TRAFFICANTE on a personal and professional basis since childhood and he does not believe TRAFFICANTE has ever been associated with La Cosa Nostre...Ragano stated that a newspaper reporter from Long Island, New York, telephoned him to obtain confirmation of the story that JACK RUBY was to be flown from Dallas to Cuba when TRAFFICANTE was jailed by Castro since RUBY was allegedly friendly with Castro. Ragano stated that such an allegation was completely false and appeared to be in an attempt to involve TRAFFICANTE in the assassination of former President Kennedy."

RUBY'S last meeting with FBI S.A. Flynn was on October 2, 1959, and was no different from any of the others - judging from Flynn's report. On November 6, 1959, RUBY was dropped from the FBI Possible Criminal Informant rolls. After the assassination J. Edgar Hoover stated that RUBY was never an informant. [FBI 105-82555-2638] Why did RUBY meet with the FBI during the same time he was working to secure TRAFFICANTE'S release? Meyer Lansky was also in touch with the FBI around this time: "I told government authorities that Castro was a Communist and would present a problem; they thought I was just being greedy because I was losing my gambling interests." [FBI 92-102-2523, 5.6.69, Hollywood, Fla.] Ruby reported his highest net income in 1959 - \$51,000. [WR p798]

## RUBY'S PLANNED TRIP TO CUBA IN DECEMBER 1960

### CANDY BARR AND MICKEY COHN

When Lewis J. McWillie testified before the HSCA he said RUBY was supposed to have flown to Cuba with Tony Zoppi, a Dallas columnist who was "the official odds maker" at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas. The purpose of the trip was to get publicity for the Tropicana. Lewis J. McWillie produced a letter to Matty Brescia from Tony Zoppi that read: "Give my regards to McWillie next time you are in touch. JACK RUBY and I were supposed to visit him in Havana but I got sidetracked." (Lewis J. McWillie said that the son of Matty Brescia "was sitting in a window and he fell out of the window and it killed



him"). According to Lewis J. McWillie "RUBY introduced Matty Brescia to Gordon McLendon." In 1971 the brother-in-law of Gordon McLendon, another RUBY associate, along with D'Alton Smith, a MARCELLO associate, dropped the names of Gordon McLendon and Clint Murchison, Jr. as powerful friends of JIMMY HOFFA who would help Edward Partin if he recanted his testimony against JIMMY HOFFA. When RUBY was taken into custody on November 24, 1963, Dallas Police found the telephone number EM 1-1197 on a slip of paper. This telephone number was listed to Gay McLendon. [FBI B544-337 JJs: res p254; Criss-Cross Directory Dallas 1963 Coles Pub.] When the

HSCA questioned Tony Zoppi, he told them that Matty Brescia worked for Gordon McLendon:

One evening around 1952, myself, Brescia, RUBY and Juanita Slusher (Stripper "Candy Barr") Barr said she was forced in 1951 at 16 to play the lead in a grainy black-and-white erotic movie titled "Smart Aleck." She shot her second of four husbands in the stomach in January 1956 after he came home drunk and threatened her. In 1956, while dating Mickey Cohn, she was arrested for marijuana. Candy stated, "We at one of RUBY'S clubs. Brescia introduced me to RUBY. He knew RUBY through Gordon McLendon."

[HSCA V5 pl34, 172, V9 pl67, V5 p28-87  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/04/arts/04barr.html>]

Tony Zoppi told the HSCA that during September or October 1958 RUBY offered to write Lewis J. McWillie at the Tropicana to get the airplane tickets so Tony Zoppi, accompanied by RUBY, could fly to Cuba and review the acts at the Tropicana. Tony Zoppi agreed that RUBY went to Cuba in August 1959 on vacation, and that the trip Tony Zoppi and RUBY were to take was an entirely different trip. Tony Zoppi told the Committee that he never made the trip because a big show, starring Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. was scheduled for the same time. [HSCA V5 pl34, 72; V9 p67] Tony Zoppie supplied the Committee with an article he had written about RUBY in 1973. In this article he placed the date of his aborted trip to Cuba on December 17, 1960, just before the U.S. broke off diplomatic relations with the Castro regime. This dove-tailed with the date of the Sinatra-Martin-Davis show which took place from January 20, 1960 to February 16, 1960.

## THE CONTRACT ON CASTRO

What motivated RUBY to have contemplated visiting Cuba during Christmas of 1960? By November 1959 the Cuban casinos of Meyer Lansky lost \$10,000 a day because of the slack in tourist trade. The syndicate strip joints and houses of prostitution had all been closed down. With TRAFFICANTE gone, the narcotics trade dwindled. On November 22, 1959, Fidel Castro nationalized the Hotel Riviera, kicked out the mobsters from the casino, and put in his own men. [NYT 11.23.59] The year 1959 drew

to a close. RUBY, Norman Rothman, Dominick Bartone et. al. had all been double-crossed. In 1960 the CIA had Robert Maheu contact Johnny Rosselli and Sam Giancana. In 1960 Johnny Rosselli was in Las Vegas, where he supervised the mafia's gambling interests. [*Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders* - Select Committee to Study Gov. Operations with Respect to Intelligence U.S. Congress; HSCA V5, p255] According to Ed Becker, in mid-1962 Johnny Rosselli was granted access to JMWAVE headquarters where he worked with Tony Varona. A source close to Fulgencio Batista reported that Johnny Rosselli was meeting with HUNT around this time. [Ed Becker and Charles Rappleye, *All American Mafioso*, Doubleday, NY 1991 p225] Robert Maheu was also in touch with TRAFFICANTE. Robert Maheu wrote: "From what I know OSWALD did act alone. And JACK RUBY killed him out of anger. Just because the man worked for the mob and probably had ties to Johnny Rosselli doesn't mean he didn't feel strongly about Kennedy." [Robert Maheu, *Next to Hughes*, 1992, Harper Collins p133]

### RUBY 1960

There were few reports available on RUBY'S activities in 1960. Lewis J. McWillie remained in Havana and in May 1960 he left the Tropicana to work at the Capri casino, a long-time Lansky property. Lewis J. McWillie told the HSCA how he got this job:

Q. Who did you know at the Capri Hotel to get the job?

A. If I remember correctly, I think it was Martinez told me to go up there...went up there and saw some fellows, Angelo, I don't know his last name, but his first name was Angelo...

Q. Could the last name have been Bruno?

A. No. I don't know Mr. Bruno. Never met him, I've seen him in Cuba, just to say 'Hello.' He knew who I was because in this business I'm a pretty good man in the gambling business.

### ANGELO BRUNO



The FBI reported Angelo Bruno had an interest in the Capri. Angelo Bruno told an FBI informant in 1961 that he was a representative of "the commission." In 1958 an informant told the FBI that the sister of Angelo Bruno was married to a son of Mike Maggio. "Meyer Lansky's presence at the Maggio Cheese Company was a strong indication that the Italian racket element was taking over gambling in Cuba. Cardello said that Mickey Cohen was Meyer Lansky's collector and errand boy in the states." Victor Calamaro told the FBI:

Gambling originated in Cuba because Meyer Lansky supported Batista in obtaining power and return to office. Victor Calamaro was asked if Meyer Lansky controlled gambling in Cuba. He implied that Meyer Lansky had previously absolute control of gambling in Cuba, but at the present time it was amended so that Victor Calamaro implied that Angelo Bruno and other gambling figures in Cuba were dealing with someone else who was unidentified.

Angelo Bruno was shot to death in Philadelphia on March 22, 1980. [Bruno FBI file 11.5.58 Phil. 92-444]

In February 1962 the FBI recorded the following conversation between Angelo Bruno and his associate, Willie Weisburg.

Weisburg: See what Kennedy done. With Kennedy, a guy should take a knife, like all them other guys, and stab and kill the (obscenity), where he is now I hope I got a week's notice. I'll kill him. Right in the White House. Somebody's got to get rid of this (obscenity). He ain't gonna leave nobody alone.

Bruno: I know he ain't. But you see, everybody in there was bad. Brownell came. He was no good...He was worse than the guy before.

Weisburg: Not like this one.

Bruno: Not like this one. This one is worse, right? If something happens to this guy (laughs).

After the Kennedy assassination, during a discussion between Angelo Bruno and his lieutenants, one participant remarked: "It's too bad his brother Bobby was not in the car, too." [HSCA V5 Pgs. 134, 172; V9 pl6]

## RAY BRANTLEY AND THE COBRAS

During RUBY'S testimony he was asked:

Did you talk to McWillie down in Cuba?" RUBY: "He is the credit manager in the Tropicana...He was a key man over the Tropicana down there. That

was during our good times. Was in harmony with *our* enemy of *our* present time. I made the trip down there via New Orleans, and so I stayed at the Volk's apartments, and I was with him constantly. I was bored gambling, because I don't gamble, and there is nothing unless you speak their language, which is Spanish, I believe. And that was the only environment. That was in August 1959. Any thought of being close to Havana, Cuba, I called him frequently because he was down there, and he was the last person to leave if I recall, when they had to leave, when he left the casino...The only other association with him was, there was a gentleman here that sells guns. He has a hardware store on Singleton Avenue. Have I told this to you gentlemen? It is Ray's hardware store. His name is Ray Brantley. This was - I don't recall when [McWillie] called me, but he was a little worried of the new regime coming in, and evidently he wanted some protection. He called me or sent me a letter that I should call Ray Brantley. He wanted some four little Cobra guns - big shipment. So me, I should say myself, rather, feeling no harm, I didn't realize, because he wasn't sending them to me, and I thought there was no crime, the man wanted protection, he is earning a livelihood. I called Ray Brantley and I said, 'Ray, McWillie called me.' I don't remember if he sent a letter or he called. He said he wants four little Cobra's or something like that. He said 'I know Mac. [Mack Blaney Johnson?] I have been doing business with him for a long time.' Meaning with reference to when he was living in Texas. He did a lot of hunting and things like that. That was the only relationship I had of any mention, outside of phone calls, to McWillie, or any person from Havana, Cuba. [Brantley] denies I ever called. Evidently he feels, maybe he feels it would be illegal to send guns out of the country. I don't know if you gentlemen know the law. I don't know the law...Could have been prior to the early part of 1959...

Ray Brantley said his records reflected that RUBY purchased a Colt Cobra on January 19, 1960, and that on May 10, 1963, he mailed a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson revolver to Lewis J. McWillie in Las Vegas. RUBY was apprised of Ray Brantley's statement and remarked "...he denies that he ever got a call from me, definitely that makes it look like I am hiding something..." [FBI FD-302 with Brantley 11.24.63 Irving, Texas; WCD4 pgs.23, 25] When this interviewer spoke to Ray Brantley in 1977 he told me: "JACK RUBY is as far from Fidel Castro and the mafia as Billy Carter is to Lady Bird Johnson."

The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about the Cobras.

Q. Does it refresh your recollection to know that JACK RUBY said that you requested four Cobras in 1959?

A. No. it doesn't. The only gun I can remember is a gun he sent out here and I let it go back, didn't take it out of the...

Q. Can you think of any reason you would have wanted guns in 1959?



A. No reason I would have wanted guns in 1959. I was in Cuba. I'd get myself killed if I had guns over there.

#### R.D. MATTHEWS AND A PLOT TO HIT CASTRO



R.D. Matthews was in Havana from July 1958 until January 1959. R.D. Matthews told the HSCA that when he moved to Cuba in 1958 he purchased the Sportsman's Club, which was located in the lobby of the Plaza Hotel, and he resided at the Hotel Deauville. In interviews with the FBI he stated he worked in the gambling casino of the Hotel Deauville. [HSCA V9 para.1054] R.D. Matthews was a co-conspirator in the mob's initial plot to hit Fidel. R.D. Matthews had returned to Cuba in February 1959 and purchased another club. A 1959 FBI report stated R.D. Matthews move to Cuba was made on behalf of TRAFFICANTE. In 1978 TRAFFICANTE told the HSCA that the mob's first plan was to hit Fidel Castro, gangland style, on a Havana street. [HSCA V9 p1054; *Miami Herald* 9.29.78] A 1962 FBI report confirmed this: A FBI informant overheard a conversation between R.D. Matthews and (FNU) Paxton "during which both men admitted having worked for TRAFFICANTE. The Embers Club in Havana and the Sans Souci were mentioned. The informant stated it was apparent that R.D. Matthews was in the Dallas rackets and had worked for a big time gambling house in Havana." In his HSCA deposition R.D. Matthews denied having known TRAFFICANTE and also stated he had no association with the Sans Suci casino. In November 1959 R.D. Matthews left Havana and returned to Dallas. R.D. Matthews was also connected with Sheriff Bill Decker. In 1959 the FBI questioned Sheriff Decker about his alleged mob ties. Sheriff Decker admitted that he had known R.D. Matthews all of his adult life. A FBI report dated 1960 stated that R.D. Matthews lived with a known prostitute and operated a Bail Bond and Loan Company. In 1961 R.D. Matthews worked for Clayton Fowler and lived in an apartment house owned by Clayton Fowler. Clayton Fowler became one of RUBY'S defense attorneys in 1964. On January 29, 1961, R.D. Matthews and James Robert Todd were arrested on Vagrancy charges. R.D. Matthews was termed a "notorious criminal" by the FBI and the Dallas Police arrested him. From 1961 to 1963 R.D. Matthews frequented several Dallas gaming clubs and was included among a group of people considered the higher echelon in Dallas bookmaking. [HSCA V9 para. 1054]

On January 2, 1961, Lewis J. McWillie left Cuba aboard a commercial flight. On January 3, 1961, the United States broke diplomatic relations with the Castro regime. During the flight Lewis J. McWillie noticed that there was an old man aboard who wore a Fair Play For Cuba button on his lapel. When the aircraft landed, Lewis J. McWillie walked up to him and punched the man. Lewis J. McWillie stayed in Miami for a few weeks then flew to Dallas where he conferred with RUBY. A job was waiting for Lewis J. McWillie at the Cal Neva Lounge at Lake Tahoe, Nevada. [WCE 1692; WCD 686d]

## FRANK SINATRA AND THE CAL NEVA LOUNGE



In the late 1940's the Cal Neva Lounge was owned by Bones Remmer, a gambler and friend of RUBY linked to the mob by the Kefauver Committee. In July 1960 Frank Sinatra applied to the Nevada Casino Commission for permission to buy an interest in the Cal-Neva. Frank Sinatra was widely believed to have represented the mafia in this transaction. In May 1963 Frank Sinatra vacationed with Sam Giancana in Hawaii. In July 1963 Sam Giancana visited the Cal-Neva Lounge despite the fact that he was barred from entering any Nevada Casino. [NYT 7.14.60 p42; 10.23.63, p5l, 10.8.63 p3l, 9.14.63 p2l, 10.9.63 p3l, 9.12.63 p26, 11.20.63, pl, 4.14.76, p1, Kefauver Hearings, Test. of Mr. Brown and M. Mooney pgs. 439,549, 1074] In October 1963 the Nevada Gaming Commission revoked Frank Sinatra's casino licenses. A few days later, Frank Sinatra announced that he had quit the gaming business. In 1972 Frank Sinatra sold his private jet to the Union Insurance Agency of Illinois, which was once owned by the Dorfman family. [Chicago Trib. 10.10.77; Chicago Sun Times 6.18.72]

## ROBERT KENNEDY AND ORGANIZED CRIME

When United States Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy took office, the New Orleans newspapers carried stories that he planned a Federal investigation of Jefferson Parish. Angelo Bruno remarked, "CARLOS MARCELLO had got in contact with SANTO TRAFFICANTE, who contacted a representative in Chicago. This Chicago contact was alleged to have contacted Frank Sinatra, who spoke with the President's brother. Apparently he was referring to the Attorney General." [FBI NO 92-36 RLK/mam]

Did Sam Giancana have Frank Sinatra contact RFK on CARLOS MARCELLO'S behalf? In December 1961 CG T-51 related that John Drew, in a discussion with Sam Giancana, "had attempted in some degree to convince Sam Giancana that Frank Sinatra had made some attempts to dissuade the Justice Department through Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy from conducting the intensified investigation being

conducted on Sam Giancana and his activities. Drew said Sam Giancana was not at all satisfied with the effects..." [FBI CG 92-349]

When Lewis J. McWillie worked at the Cal-Neva Lounge in early 1961, Sam Giancana was in the midst of recruiting an assassination squad for use against Fidel Castro. [NYT 5.24.75 pl.] Lewis J. McWillie denied having spoken with Sam Giancana, or even having seen him on the premises, yet logic dictated otherwise. Lewis J. McWillie could have provided Sam Giancana with information about the situation in Cuba. When questioned by the HSCA, Lewis J. McWillie denied having known Sam Giancana:

Q. Do you know a Mr. Sam Giancana?

A. No.

Q. Have you heard of Mr. Giancana?

A. I don't know him.

Q. Have you ever met Mr. Giancana?

A. No.

#### RUBY'S CRIMINAL RECORD

Aside from his association with numerous gangsters, arms runners and career criminals, it was apparent from RUBY'S criminal record that he was involved with prostitution in Dallas. RUBY recruited underage girls from out of state to work for him. A confidential source told S.A. Gemberling that she obtained a job for Bethel 'Babs' Kramer through JACK RUBY, as a stripper at the Carousel Club: "She stated that Bethel would be staying with the Carousel bartender and his wife. She described Bethel merely as a white female who would be 18 years of age on December 21, 1961...The source understands JACK RUBY is going to obtain identification for Bethel reflecting she is 21 years of age." In June 1961 RUBY was mentioned in the report of a Potential Criminal Informant concerning prostitution in Dallas. [FBI DL-137-976 6.5.61] The report was generated by S.A.'s Kenneth Howe and Robert Gemberling: "Potential Criminal Informant Helen Afanace Roan stated that she knows JACK RUBY and that he is 'no good.' She stated he will not permit a girl to work for him unless she is intimate with him."

#### ROBERT PERRIN

At this time RUBY was actively engaged in smuggling arms to anti-Castro forces within Cuba. Robert Perrin worked with RUBY in this effort. The CIA reported:

Robert Pollock Perrin, Lt. (jg) USMC was security approved for OSS employment on March 14, 1944, but there was no indication that he ever was so employed. A note in

his file dated March 25, 1944, states 'Will employ ETO (European Theater of Operations) if Navy slot available.' Office of Security Indices Results: Subject's file reflects the security approval of OSS employment as stated above. A PHS submitted at the time contains the following information: Robert Pollock PERRIN was born December 26, 1912 at Carlinville, Illinois. His legal residence was given as Du Page Country Club, R.D. Plainfield, Illinois. At the time he was a Lt. (jg) USNR stationed at Rochester, New York...It is noted that Subject's listed character reference, Morton Bodfish, was Deputy Chief, NO Branch, OSS, and was the person who scheduled Subject's security investigation. The only derogatory information developed during the investigation was that PERRIN's wife, Chelsea Jean (STANSBURY) Perrin, born June 23, 1918 at Chicago, Illinois, left him and joined the WAC's because of PERRIN's attention to other women. [CIA 9.18.68 40335-122]

Robert Perrin was alleged to have smuggled guns to Franco. He owned a boat that was docked in Miami, and was a daredevil driver in an auto thrill show titled "Jack Starr's Spills and Chills."

#### BARBARA JEAN ZEIDMAN

In 1959 Robert Perrin married Nancy Mathews who was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on September 9, 1936, as Barbara Jean Zeidman, and was adopted at age eight months by the Mathews family. She was described as a white female, 5' 5", slender build, brown hair, wild eyed, partly crossed, and talked with a lisp. Nancy Perrin married Charles Glenn Wilson in 1953, whom she divorced in 1955. In 1956 she attempted suicide, then committed herself to a mental hospital. In 1957 she married Louis E. Musachio, who was more often than not confined to Air Force psychiatric hospitals. She divorced him in 1959.

Nancy and Robert Perrin moved to Colorado. Nancy Perrin was arrested in Denver in 1960 for carrying a concealed weapon. She was fined \$25. There, according to Nancy: "I acted as a hostess for men who were in the syndicate - you know the mafia - headed by Vito Genovese. I knew a man they called Young 'Piggy' Marchese - he was a syndicate member from New York who was hiding out in Denver - a big, fat sloppy fellow."

The FBI checked its criminal index for "Piggy" Marchese and discovered: "Las Vegas indices reflect Vincent Marchese aka "Piggy Mac" Marchese operates the Opera Lounge, St. Louis, and is reported to be a gambler, bookie, hoodlum, and associate of hoodlums, and has served a Federal prison sentence for narcotics." A cousin of "Piggy" Marchese was part of the French Connection narcotics case, and his uncle, Frank Pisciotta, was the number two mafia don in the St. Louis area. There was a "Piggy" Marchese and he could have hid out in Denver.

The FBI ignored this report and cited interviews with everyone named "Marchese" who *lived* in Denver. Both Michael and Rudy Marchese said they never used the nick-name

"Piggy," nor had anyone ever called them that. The FBI determined that Nancy Perrin lied about having known "Piggy" Marchese.

Circa 1960, Robert Perrin and Nancy Perrin separated. Nancy Perrin said that in the later part of 1960 she worked as "lobbyist" for the liquor industry in Boston and New Hampshire. Nancy Perrin had sexual relations with members of the Legislature in return for their votes. In 1961 she was arrested in Boston for prostitution and fined \$200. Sometime in 1961 she received information that her husband had gone to Dallas. Nancy Perrin said she called Dallas and spoke with Officer J.D. TIPPIT. When she came to Dallas in June 1961 she only had \$4 and went directly to the Police Department. Detective Paul Rayburn of the Juvenile Division found her a place to live. The FBI questioned Detective Paul Rayburn on December 6, 1963. He admitted having had a "close personal" relationship with Nancy Perrin who he described as a "psychopathic liar." Detective Paul Rayburn knew RUBY for about ten years. Nancy Perrin moved to Dallas where she worked for RUBY.



During her employment at the Carousel Club Nancy ran into "Piggy" Marchese." "Piggy" Marchese, who was there to visit RUBY, suggested that she leave Dallas and get a job with Lou Brindisi at the Silver Slipper in Las Vegas. Nancy Perrin exhibited the business card of Louis Brindisi. Louis Brindisi was questioned by the FBI in Las Vegas, Nevada, on December 6, 1963. He advised that he knew no one in the Denver area who used the name "Piggy" Marchese. The only Marcheses he knew in Denver were Rudy and Mike Marchese. The FBI confirmed that in August 1962 several St. Louis hoodlums, who were meeting in Dallas, were arrested and photographed by the Dallas Police Department. The FBI document which contained this information was highly deleted. Was "Piggy" Marchese was among the group? The FBI reported that Vincent Marchesi, wa., "Piggy" was a crook with St Louis PD #31875

VINCENT MARCHESI, wa., "PIGGY"  
St. Louis PD #31875

Nancy Perrin testified, in a vague sort of way, that she saw a member of the Genovese family of New York in RUBY'S club. Nancy Perrin was arrested for prostitution twice during the Summer of 1961 but the charges were reduced to vagrancy. Nancy Perrin

was represented by Cy Victorson, JACK RUBY'S attorney. Nancy Perrin worked at RUBY'S Carousel Club that summer until Nancy Perrin and JACK RUBY had a falling out. She then worked at another club, but became ill.

It was during this time (between August and November 1961) that Dick Cherry, a bartender at the University Club who arranged prostitution dates for Nancy Perrin, arranged for her and Robert Perrin to meet with an Army Colonel in connection with taking Cuban refugees from Cuba to Miami. When they arrived at the Colonel's house he was in uniform, and some reference was made to Enfield rifles. At another meeting JACK RUBY walked in. There was a discussion as to how to get refugees into Miami, what bay to pick them up at, and there was also a mention of military equipment and Enfield rifles, "which were going to be delivered to Castro." Nancy Perrin said when she heard the guns were going to Fidel Castro she became upset, because she was loyal to the United States, and against Communism. She was under the impression that RUBY furnished the money for this activity. Despite her qualms, Nancy Perrin and Robert Perrin attended one more meeting. She said this one happened while she worked for RUBY. This contradicted her previous statement that all the meetings occurred after her employment with RUBY was terminated.

Dave Cherry denied Nancy Perrin's charges, but admitted having known her. Dave Cherry told the FBI that Nancy Perrin was a deadbeat who was barred from the club. He described her as mentally deranged and incoherent in her speech. The University Club was owned by Benny Bickers, Lewis J. McWillie's former boss. Dick Shurian, a reporter from Los Angeles told the FBI that in 1958 RUBY was a close friend of the owner of the University Club, name unknown. [FBI Dallas 44-1639-639]

Nancy Perrin had furnished reliable information to local police departments in the past and was about as reliable as "junkie hooker snitches" came. Nancy Perrin stated that RUBY smuggled B.A.R.s. In April 1964, the Dallas Police Department checked the personnel at the garages and service stations patronized by RUBY. The Dallas Police discovered that a station attendant, Donnell Darius Whitter, who serviced RUBY'S car had been arrested on November 18, 1963, for possession of two B.A.R.s which had been taken during a burglary of the National Guard Headquarters at Terrell, Texas. Nancy Perrin referred to a man named "Youngblood." Scott Malone wrote: "Another name she mentioned was transcribed by the Warren Commission first as "Ed Brunner" and then as "Eddie Brawner" from Miami. This has lead some to suspect she was referring to Eddie Browder, who was from Miami and was in Texas at the time of the meeting." The CIA: "One Robert Perrin allegedly met with JACK RUBY, Col. L. Robert Castorr and others in Dallas in 1962 to plan a Cuban smuggling operation. Robert Perrin has been accused of being a CIA gun-runner in Spain and Cuba." [CIA 9.18.68 40335-122]

In July 1963 Nancy Perrin worked with the Oakland Police Department and investigated an abortion case which resulted in a conviction. She became a paid informant of the Oakland Police Department.

## THE DEATH OF ROBERT PERRIN

Robert Perrin died in August 28, 1963, in New Orleans, of arsenic poisoning. A suicide note was found in his apartment that made reference to a woman assumed to be his wife. The police report on his death read: "Two date, two things stand out in this incident.

(1) The victim telephoned the State Police, rather than the City Police, and a State Police employee identified the victims body...

(2) The apparent suicide note addressed to 'Slim,' who apparently is the Subject's wife, stated that she had obviously gone to Baton Rouge which is central headquarters for State Police. The 'Art' mentioned in his note is probably A.R. Wick who identified the body. This appears to have been an apparent suicide, however, we are unable to state where or when the Subject obtained possession of the arsenic, and pending further tests, we will await the findings of the Coroner's Office.

On April 11, 1964, Nancy Perrin married Francis L. Rich. Nancy Perrin began to receive anonymous threatening calls and was followed from her home in Massachusetts. When she gave the license plate number of the car she thought was following her to the police, it traced back to a construction worker named John S. Alberto.

The FBI in Dallas was ordered to make every effort to "resolve information furnished by Perrin concerning running guns to Castro in Cuba" [FBI DL 44-1639-1331] Nancy Perrin's story was discounted by the Warren Commission and the FBI even though she did not fail a lie detector test - the results were inconclusive "based on Perrin's past medical history and use of drugs." Nancy Perrin had taken 10 milligrams of methedrine before taking the test. Nancy Perrin was asked:

(1) Do you know JACK RUBY?

(3) Were you employed by JACK RUBY?

(4) Have you seen JACK RUBY since 1961?

(5) Do you know why RUBY killed OSWALD? [crossed out]

(6) Do you know Tippit?

(7) Do you know Piggy Marchese? #2 Details of meeting

(1) 1st meeting (husband, girl hustler, Dick C. her)

(2) Where? What happened?

(3) 2nd meeting? When?

(4) Did RUBY attend it? How can you be sure? [all #2 was crossed out and replaced] #2

(1) In summer 1961 were you living in Dallas?

(2) Did you attend meetings concerning gun running?

(3) Was RUBY there?

(7) Did Piggy Marchese contact RUBY in Dallas?

(8) Is story you have told true?

(9) In Dallas did you hustle?

(10) Are you now hustling?

[WCD 799a, CD799b; Ltr. M.W. Stevenson to Forrest Sorrels 4.17.64; WCE 3059; WCE3061; CE 1518; FBI 5-LV-44-48 12.6.63; DN89-41 12.9.63; FBI 44-24016-573; 44-1639-161; 44-1639/44-496 St. Louis 12.4.63 4:17 p.p; Organized Crime in Interstate Commerce pages 192, 197, 679]

#### FRANK CHAVEZ

On November 26, 1963, the FBI in Washington and Dallas received this radiogram:

Administrative page, at San Juan Puerto Rico (deleted) San Juan, advised S.A. Royal L. Blassingame on November 26, 1963, instant: Anna Maria Del Valle, Secretary Treasurer Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union, was approached by Migel Cruz, organizer for Local 901, Teamster's Union who made a statement 'Now that we've taken care of President Kennedy we'll have no trouble taking over things.' (Deleted) also furnished above information to USDOJ...

Anna Del Valle advised the FBI that on November 22, 1963, Migel Cruz told her "They killed Kennedy and the second will be Ramos Ducos." Ramos Ducos was President of Local 610, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. When Ramos Ducos was questioned he told the FBI that he heard Frank Chavez mention the name of JACK RUBY as someone who was connected with the Teamster's Union in the early 1960's.

Sometime in about September 1961, Frank Chavez told Ramos Ducos that [he] had an appointment to meet Richard Kavner, International Vice President of the Teamsters Union, and JACK RUBY as well as a third



Teamster official whose name he could not recall. The meeting was to be in San Juan.

Richard Kavner, a St. Louis teamster, was a close associate of Barney Baker and Paul Dorfman, while Frank Chavez, the head of Teamster Local 901, had a record for carrying a concealed weapon and attempted murder. When United States Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy indicted Frank Chavez, Frank Ragano was hired to represent Chavez who was head Puerto-Rican Teamsters. Frank Chavez became a staunch Kennedy hater. In 1964 he wrote a threatening letter to Robert F. Kennedy which contained a reference to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. When Frank Chavez traveled to Washington in March 1964, the Kennedy family was given 24 hour police protection. Frank Chavez, too violent and unpredictable for a permanent place in the Teamster hierarchy, was killed by his bodyguard in early 1965. [FBI 44-24016-207; FBI DL 44-1639 11.26.63 at San Juan P.R. re: Anna Maria Del Valle, Leopold Ramos Ducos by R.L. Blassingame; Slawson Notes p86]

In early 1962 RUBY had a conversation with Robert Lee Shorman, a musician in one of the bands that played at the Carousel Club. RUBY told Robert Lee Shorman he was originally from Chicago where he made a living by running a floating crap game and that he had to leave Chicago when things got "too hot." Robert Lee Shorman observed numerous police officers, uniformed and plain clothes, on duty and off, in the Carousel Club. Robert Lee Shorman never saw any of them pay for a drink. The only police officer Robert Lee Shorman knew by name was Will Fritz, head of Dallas, Homicide Squad. In all, Robert Lee Shorman saw 150 to 200 police officers go in and out of RUBY'S place in the month he worked for him. [WCE 1250; WCE 1505] In March 1962, Mary Hartford, the former secretary to Pat Gannaway, the Officer in Charge, Special Services Bureau, of Narcotics, Vice and Criminal Intelligence of the Dallas Police Department, worked for RUBY. [FBI 44-1639-1240] After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Pat Gannaway provided the FBI with an incomplete report on RUBY. Pat Gannaway was interviewed by Special Agents Robert M. Barrett and Ivan D. Lee. Barrett and Lee were the Agents assigned to interview Joe Campisi and other MARCELLO linked figures in Dallas. They were assigned by FBI SAC Gordon Shanklin. [WCE 3021; FBI 44-939 12.3.63 Houston] RUBY'S personal papers contained the business card of W.E. Naylor of the Austin, Texas, narcotics squad. W.E. Naylor said he contacted RUBY three times in 1963 on official business. [FBI 44-1639-1844, 2082]

#### FRANK ANTHONY CORTELLI

Sally Kruckeberg told the FBI that Frank Anthony Cortelli (born February 23, 1919) telephoned her on the Sunday that OSWALD was slain. He asked what she thought of that "meatball RUBY." He said it was his opinion that RUBY shot OSWALD to shut him up. Cortelli told her he had met RUBY in Miami Beach and he was a "bum." Sally Kruckeberg described Cortelli as a big spender. The files of the Miami Beach Police Department reflected Frank Anthony Cortelli registered as bartender in October 1961 at Puccini's, a mob hangout. The FBI "noted Cortelli denies knowing RUBY, and does not

name any associates in this area. In view of this, Miami taking no further action concerning Cortelli." [FBI 44-1639-1302, 1344; FBI 44-1639, 1119, 746]

### THE TELEGRAM TO HAVANA



On April 1, 1962, RUBY'S brother Earl Ruby sent a telegram of an undisclosed nature to Havana, Cuba. The National Security Administration routinely monitored all cable traffic between Cuba and the United States and obtained a copy of the "April Fools Day" telegram. When this researcher applied for a copy of this document under the Freedom of Information Act, the National Security Administration refused to confirm or deny its existence, and cited several statutes. In 1977 this researcher filed suit in Federal District Court against the National Security Administration, challenging its determination in this matter. The National Security Administration argued that release of the document would deal a "crippling blow" to United States intelligence because it would show the enemies of America the channels being monitored in April 1962, as a result of its "pinpointed" nature. This researcher argued that the SSCIA had already declassified the fact that all cable traffic between the United States and Cuba was monitored by National Security Administration as part of OPERATION SHAMROCK, beginning in 1959. The Warren Commission, by having included a report which stated that the telegram appeared on the telephone bill of Earl Ruby, not only declassified the sender, date, etc. but also indicated the cable went via Western Union, since Western Union was the only cable company allowed to charge cables to a phone number.

District Court Judge Charles R. Brieant agreed that the American people had a right to see this telegram:

There is nothing secret or confidential now about OPERATION SHAMROCK, if we assume as we must, that the unnamed, unfriendly foreign intelligence subscribes to the publication of the U.S. Government Printing Office and can read English. Its cover has been blown by the Church Committee. The issue in this case is not whether the RUBY message itself is exempt from disclosure. Clearly, it is not. Rather, this Court must determine whether National Security Administration properly withheld the fact of existence, or non-existence of the information requested.

Judge Charles R. Brieant quoted the affidavit of the National Security Administration:

Even if we assume that National Security Administration has the requested message, it would not be possible to ascertain whether such material had been derived from SHAMROCK, or another source...If this is true and National Security Administration cannot ascertain which collection source (SHAMROCK, or some other method) obtained the RUBY message, how can it be said that foreign intelligence could discover or ascertain that

source? Such a result would suggest the absurd conclusion that certain foreign powers already know more about the operations of the National Security Administration than U.S.A. does. I shall direct disclosure of whether or not the message referred to in the complaint exists, and if it does, shall direct a copy be furnished to WEBERMAN by the National Security Administration.

Rather than appealing this ruling, the National Security Administration made a motion for re-argument and *in camera* presentation of evidence and affidavits. After this meeting, at which my attorney was not present, Judge Charles R. Brieant reversed himself. [77-Civ-50-58-CLB-USDC/SDNY]

### RUBY AND THE PLOT TO KILL OSWALD

By early 1963 Fidel Castro was entrenched in Cuba. All the mob casinos had been closed and Cuba was dependent on Soviet aid instead of gambling revenues. In April 1963, Cuba was again on RUBY'S mind. He called Clarence Rector, who was in Cuba in 1959. Clarence Rector, who had known RUBY since 1950, told the FBI that RUBY had told him, back in 1960, that he had some gambling-concessions in Cuba. [HSCA V9 p192] In May 1963 RUBY'S long distance telephone calls increased. Suspicious calls peaked in early August 1963, then dropped off until September, when they began an incline that lasted until RUBY'S incarceration. The number of all of RUBY'S toll calls increased from an average of 25 to 35 in May through September, to 75 in October, to 96 in November. [HSCA V10 p123-Fonzi] RUBY was getting involved in something. RUBY:

Some persons are accusing me falsely of being part of the plot...that I was party to a plot to silence OSWALD...They already have me as the accused assassin of our beloved President. Now if I sound screwy telling you this, then I must be screwy.

Earl Warren responded:

...there has been no witness before this Commission out of the hundreds we have questioned who has claimed to have any personal knowledge that you were a party to a conspiracy to kill our President.

RUBY contradicted Earl Warren: "Yes; but you don't know this area here."



On August 29, 1963, RUBY called Lewis J. McWillie at the Thunderbird Hotel and Casino. Two days later he called him again, just before he left for New York City. On August 4, 1963, RUBY checked into the New York Hilton Hotel. As soon as he got to his room he called the Old French Opera House in New Orleans. After RUBY got off the phone with Harold Tannenbaum, or whom ever was on the other end of the line, he called Michael Shore in Los Angeles. [WCE 1581]

#### REPRISE RECORDS

Michael Shore worked for Reprise Records, which, at the time, was regarded by many journalists as a syndicate front. Frank Sinatra owned Reprise Records, and he owned it at the same time he owned the Cal-Neva Lounge. He sold Reprise to Warner Brothers around the same time he gave up his interest in the Cal-Neva Lounge. [NYT 8.8.63; FBI CA-44-895-EJK:mjg cover pgs. O, P, Q, R, U]. The Los Angeles FBI Field Office had an informant at Reprise Records who reported that the daughter of a syndicate jewel thief worked there as a secretary, and that Reprise employees were calling all over the country and had placed large bets. In 1963 the FBI interviewed Michael Shore about the conviction of his friend, Marvin R. Cole, on Obstruction of Justice charges. Michael Shore told them that Cole was one of "Doc Stacher's boys." Joseph "Doc" Stacher was described by the FBI as a hoodlum, and associate of top hoodlums, who knew most of the important criminals in the United States and Europe. Joseph "Doc" Stacher had an arrest record that dated back to 1924. He was an associate of the late Abner "Longey" Zwillman and was considered as a lieutenant of the Zwillman mob engaged in bootlegging activities in New Jersey during prohibition days. In addition to gambling interests in the East, Joseph "Doc" Stacher, in connection with Abner "Longey" Zwillman, was alleged to have penetrated gambling interests in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada, and, after the death of Abner "Longey" Zwillman, Joseph "Doc" Stacher was

reputed to have taken over control of the remnants of the Abner "Longey" Zwillman mob. Joseph "Doc" Stacher was listed as an associate of Frank Costello, Frank Erickson and Meyer Lansky. Michael Shore told the FBI that he had been responsible for starting Marvin Cole out in business and had loaned money to Marvin Cole so that Marvin Cole might buy points in the Fremont Casino in Las Vegas. [FBI Los Angeles 44-895, DL 44-1039 GAP: JM cover page C] A check of the Fremont Casino's licenses revealed that Marvin Cole owned 9% of the Fremont Casino. The largest point-holder was Ed Levinson, a well-known front man for Meyer Lansky. Marvin Cole was connected with Louis J. Lederer, the secretary-treasurer of the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas. When Frank Costello was shot in 1957 a paper with figures in Louis J. Lederer's handwriting regarding receipts at the Tropicana was found on Frank Costello. [FBI Los Angeles 92-113] Michael Shore was investigated by the FBI at least three times.

In his youth Shore had been a member of the Communist Party:

On March 8, 1949 Horace Morton Newman, County Educational Director of the Los Angeles County Communist Party was placed under arrest by a US Marshal. Subsequently his personnel effects were made available to Special Agents Bardwell D. Odum and W. George Goold by A. Antallia, Jailer at the Los Angeles County Jail. Examination of these personnel effects brought to light two sheets of yellow paper. One contained a list of eleven names; the other contained numbered comments, apparently corresponding to the names on the first sheet. It would appear from these comments that these are persons in the Hollywood section of the Communist Party who are being considered for expulsion from the Party. Opposite the name of Mike Shore was the notation, "Friendly to us, but has bad connections that may be dangerous, continuing to give money etc."

On November 27, 1963, the FBI questioned Michael Shore about his relationship with RUBY. Michael Shore stated that he had never met RUBY, but did know his brother Earl, in Chicago, in the 1930's, when they were growing up. Michael Shore's association with Earl Ruby lasted until 1954 when Earl Ruby moved to Detroit. Earl Ruby and Michael Shore knew each other for 24 years without Earl Ruby having introduced Michael Shore to his brother JACK? Not a likely story. Michael Shore was also connected to RUBY through Irwin Weiner, who was a close friend of both men. [WCD 86 pgs. 10-15, 487; WCE 1507, *Newsweek* 3.3.47] Michael Shore claimed that RUBY called him about some "labor trouble" he was having and he referred him to the President of the Associated Booking Corporation. The FBI attempted to question Joseph "Doc" Stacher associate Max Unterberg about RUBY. [FBI 44-169-3858] He died of a heart attack in November 28, 1963.

## SIDNEY KORSHAK



On August 5, 1963, RUBY visited Joe Glaser, President of Associated Booking. In 1962 Joe Glaser assigned all of the "voting rights, dominion and control" of his majority stock in the concern to Sidney Korshak. [FBI NY 44-974 cover page K; FBI 44-1639 12.19.63 at Dallas, James F. Glonek: BL] Sidney Korshak was born in 1907 in Chicago's West Side, the son of Jewish immigrants. Soon after his graduation from law school Sidney Korshak defended members of the Capone mob. In the late 1930's he was associated with JIMMY HOFFA and Paul Dorfman, and in 1943, he was named in a case that involved Johnny Rosselli. In the years following World War II documents from the McClellan Committee listed him as one of "three key figures in bookmaking" in downtown Chicago during that period. *The New York Times* reported that by the early 1950's "Mr. Korshak often drove to weekend business meetings with Sam Giancana and Tony Accardo." [NYT 9.27-30.76 - Sy Hersh] In the late 1950's Sidney Korshak testified before a Federal Grand Jury about a contract involving Anthony Accardo. On May 15, 1967, Sidney Korshak was involved in an alleged attempt to dissuade Ed Reid from publishing his information about CARLOS MARCELLO'S death threat against the Kennedy brothers. In a conversation with an FBI informant that took place one day after Ed Reid supplied the FBI with his manuscript, Sidney Korshak discussed Ed Becker and "Korshak inquired as to who Ed Becker was, and advised that Becker was trying to shake down some of Korshak's friends for money by claiming he is the collaborator with Reid, and that for money he could keep their names out of the book." The memorandum also stated that Sidney Korshak had further stated that Ed Becker was a "no-good shakedown artist." [HSCA V9 p69, V9p79]

On whose behalf did Korshak attempt to quash the CARLOS MARCELLO death threat story? In 1968 a Justice Department report described him as perhaps "the most significant link in the relationship between the crime syndicate political labor and management." The FBI never questioned Sidney Korshak about RUBY despite RUBY'S close association with Associated Booking in Dallas and his visit to their offices in New York City. The FBI concluded that Joe Glaser "is believed to be the sole stockholder in this corporation."

When RUBY returned to his hotel room in Manhattan he called Michael Shore again. On August 6, 1963, RUBY flew back to Dallas. A day later he called a number in Chicago and spoke with Sheri Aston for 34 minutes. On August 19, 1963, August 20, 1963, and August 22, 1963, RUBY called Lewis J. McWillie at the Thunderbird. In early September 1963 Harold Tannenbaum visited RUBY in Dallas. A meeting was held at the Cabana Motel which was located near the Trademart in Dallas. JOHN MARTINO was in Texas beginning on September 30, 1963: he was in Houston and Austin on October 1, 1963, Dallas, on October 2, 1963, Austin on October 3, 1963, Houston on October 4, 1963 and had also been in New Orleans, Miami.

## THE CABANA MOTEL

The Cabana was built in the mid-1950s with Teamster Union Funds. RUBY had commented about the connection between JIMMY HOFFA and the Cabana Motel to his bookkeeper, and his nightclub shared several employees with the Cabana Motel. [FBI 44-24016-1196; FBI HO-44-939 11.25.63 at Corpus Christi, Texas; FBI DL 44-1639 by George Denton; FBI DL 44-1639 11.25.63 Dallas Thomas M. O'Malley; WCE 1229 p531; CE 1644; FBI-44-24016-884] RUBY was meeting with two men and a woman that day. Mrs. Howard Summers of Odessa, Texas, saw the four men, as did R. E. Lee of Seattle, Washington. Mrs. Howard Summers told the FBI:

I heard them talking - talking about a meeting that they were gonna hold. At the time I was sure the meeting had something to do with JIMMY HOFFA, who I understand owns the Cabana. We happened to be sitting at an adjoining table and happened to overhear their rather loud conversation.

[FBI 44-24016-268; 62-109060-5941]

Ruby frequented the Cabana Motel since its construction and used it as a safe-house for criminal operations. All of this telephonic and travel activity on the part of JACK RUBY did not concern obtaining sleazy dime-a-dozen strippers for his greasy dive. He could have done this in a fraction of the time. The calls concerned RUBY'S part in the Kennedy assassination - the elimination of OSWALD.

## RUBY'S ALLEGED MEETING WITH ROSSELLI

Scott Malone reported that in early September 1963 RUBY flew to Miami where he had at least two meetings with Johnny Rosselli. When the HSCA final Report was published, this statement was omitted since it could not be satisfactorily verified. None-the-less researcher Scott Malone verified it with two law enforcement sources, who later recanted. Lewis J. McWillie, admitted "seeing" Johnny Rosselli:

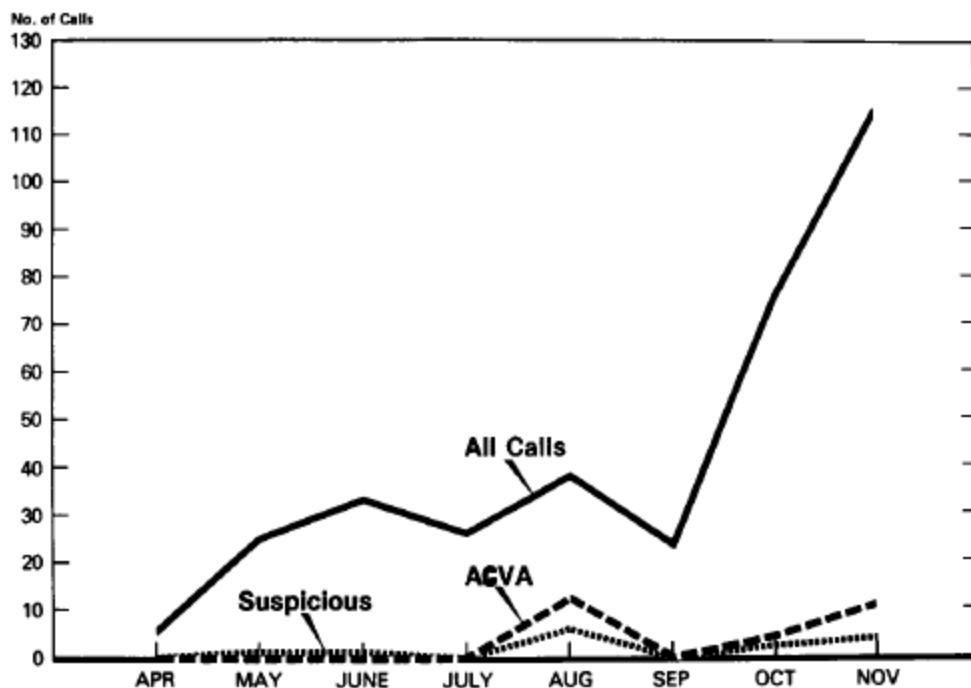
I didn't know him. I seen him around town here like I told the FBI and then Mr. Fenton [a HSCA investigator]. There wouldn't be any way I'd know that Mr. Giancana, or Mr. Rosselli, had interests in Cuban casinos. I never heard of it, no. What attracted me to Mr. Rosselli was any time I ever saw him, he had on dark glasses.

Lewis J. McWillie was questioned about the death of Johnny Rosselli by the FBI. [HSCA V5 p111]

# JACK RUBY'S TOLL CALLS



## JACK RUBY - TOLL CALLS - 1963



HAROLD TANNENBAUM

CAROLINE WALKER  
CA-7-6297-HOUSTON  
HAROLD TANNENBAUM  
CLUB-5238930-NEW  
HOME 2423401 ORLEANS



On May 7, 1963, RUBY placed a three minute call to Harold Tannenbaum (born June 12, 1926) in New Orleans. The number he dialed (523-9468) connected him to the Sho-Bar on Bourbon Street. [WCE 2303] The Sho-Bar was a strip joint whose corporate structure was set up by former State Senator Salvador Anselmo for PETER MARCELLO. Harold Tannenbaum was the manager of the Old French Opera House, a Bourbon Street strip joint. He had been arrested on January 11, 1963, and charged with allowing a lewd and obscene act on the premises of the French Opera House. He and his wife lived at the Tropical Tourist Courts Trailer Park, which was owned by the MARCELLO family. Mrs. Tannenbaum was a cashier at the Sho-Bar. On May 9, 1963, Harold Tannenbaum went to a pay phone and called RUBY at the home of Juanita Slusher, after which he called Joe Spicola a Tampa, Florida, nightclub owner. The family of Joe Spicola owned a large hardware store in Tampa. The TRAFFICANTE family was also in the hardware business in Tampa. On May 9, 1963, Harold Tannenbaum called RUBY'S home number. On May 10, 1963, Harold Tannenbaum visited Miami. While Harold



Tannenbaum was in Miami RUBY called Lewis J. McWillie who, in early 1963, worked at the Thunderbird Casino, a syndicate holding. Lewis J. McWillie told the FBI:

I am certain RUBY has no underworld connections, I have never known him to be involved in prostitution or gambling. He had no connections with Castro or Batista supporters. There was no arrangement or liaison between the gambling interests and Castro. RUBY called me about a labor matter in November and to my knowledge never visited Las Vegas.

On the same day he called Lewis J. McWillie (May 12, 1963), RUBY called the Dream Lounge, in Cicero, Illinois, a gambling joint controlled by Sam Giancana. On November 30, 1963, the FBI interviewed Jacob Yonover, the manager of the Dream Lounge. Jacob Yonover stated he had known RUBY and his family most of his life. He dated one of RUBY'S sisters. Jacob Yonover claimed he was not in touch with RUBY for 15 years and there had been no contact between them until about two months ago when they exchanged about three telephone calls. [FBI 89-69 11.29.63 New Orleans Reed Jensen pgs. 131-133, NO-44-2064 pgs 232, 233 Nathan O. Brown and Charles C. Murray; FBI 44-1636-1141; 44-2064-169; Coles City Directory, 1963, Tampa] In 1950 Yanover's bar on Rush Street in Chicago was shut down for employing bar girls. In January 1963 19 people were arrested in Yanover's Cicero, Illinois bar for gambling offenses. In January 1964 Yonover was arrested and along with seven women on vice charges. In 1968 the State of Illinois shut down two of Yanover's bars. Yanover was killed while crossing a Chicago street in December 1985.



On May 14, 1963, RUBY went to New Orleans, where he met with Harold Tannenbaum. RUBY returned to Dallas on May 20, 1963. On May 25, 1963, Harold Tannenbaum called RUBY from the Old French Opera House. On June 5, 1963, he called him again. RUBY returned his call and spoke with him for 24 minutes. The next day RUBY returned to New Orleans. The Warren Commission found no identifying records to show that RUBY was in a hotel or anywhere else between the nights of June 5, 1963, and June 8, 1963. Was RUBY staying at Churchill Downs, the multi-million dollar estate where CARLOS MARCELLO lived? [WC Hearings V14 p150; HSCA V4 p198] By June 9, 1963, RUBY was back in Dallas. On June 11, 1963, he placed another call to the Sho-Bar and on June 14, 1963, June 19 1963, and June 21, 1963, RUBY called the Old French Opera House. Eugene R. De La Parra reported: "On June 22, 1963, I was in Benny Traegel's Bookie Joint when TONY MARCELLO came in to service the pinball machine, TONY was VINCE'S and CARLOS' brother. TONY says to Benny -- the word is out to get the Kennedy family." On June 24, 1963, CARLOS MARCELLO called the Tropical Tourist Courts Trailer Park and spoke with Harold Tannenbaum and Nofio Pecora. [HSCA V4 p498; V9 p69 Id; HSCA V4 p198] In late June, Harold Tannenbaum visited RUBY in Dallas. On July 6, 1963, RUBY called the Opera House. On July 9, 1963, Harold Tannenbaum telephoned RUBY. On July 24, 1963, RUBY called Harold Tannenbaum and was told that Harold Tannenbaum was not there. RUBY dialed his personal telephone number (242-3401) and spoke with someone for 31 minutes.

## RUBY TELEPHONES JOE 'THE WOP' CATALDO COLOMBO FAMILY MAFIA UNDERBOSS



JOE COLOMBO SHOT DEAD ON  
COLUMBUS DAY IN COLUMBUS CIRCLE

In 1962 Geraldo (Jerry) Catena, the successor to Vito Genovese in the New York Mafia, arranged for Louie Jacobs to fund an attempt by Joe (the Wop) Cataldo – a New York gangster to gain control of the Finger Lakes track. [Emprise notes, Sports Illustrated story, 5-29-72] Cataldo owned Chandler's Restaurant on East 49<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan. On July 7, 1963, a call was placed from RUBY'S home telephone to Gloversville, New York. George Senator, a close associate of RUBY'S during the summer of 1963, was originally from Gloversville and this led some researchers to believe that this call was placed by him. When the FBI investigated this call the Bureau found that the telephone number in Gloversville belonged to Joe "The Wop" Cataldo, who the Bureau described as "a top New York hoodlum." The Warren Commission, however, was more interested in George Senator and in its report stated: "It is difficult to know with complete certainty whether Senator had any foreknowledge of the shooting of OSWALD." A few days before the FBI traced the toll call, FBI informant number "KY-4003-C-TE" advised that JACK RUBY obtained talent for his Dallas club through Joe "The Wop" Cataldo during the late 1950's. The only acts Cataldo booked were gangster who would "do a number" on anyone who did not come with the vigorish on his usurious loans.

On December 11, 1963, Joe Cataldo was exhibited a photograph of RUBY by the FBI. He denied any relationship at any time with RUBY. In May 1968 Drew Pearson reported on Senator George Smathers Hearings into loan sharking: "Deputy Inspector Louis C. Cottell of the New York City Police Department identified New York loan sharks as Salvatore Bonanno, Joe Cataldo and Carmine Lombardozi." [Nevada Daily Mail May 13, 1968 – Google News Archives] Joe The Wop's sons, Joseph Jr, and Dominik were Mafia members. Little Dom not only was the brother of Colombo crime family mobster Joseph Cataldo but he was also the in-law of mob boss Albert Anastasia.

In late 1973 Dominick Cataldo approached Anthony Bruno and offered \$3,000 for New York State Supreme Court Judge William C. Brennan in a first degree robbery case

pending before the appeals court judge. Bruno went to Brennan who, after looking into the matter, told Bruno he would accept the \$3,000. Cataldo gave the money to Bruno, who gave it to Brennan. In February 1974 Brennan suppressed identification evidence linking Cataldo to the robbery, which led to dismissal of the indictment. After the dismissal, Brennan told Bruno, “[D]on’t let them kid you that they didn’t need me on this, they did.” [<http://openjurist.org/798/f2d/581>] On September 10, 1987 two men walked into a Queens barbershop and murdered Vito Scaglione, 36 years old, who had ties to organized-crime figures and was suspected of being involved in narcotics trafficking. (ironically “scag” is slang for heroin) Mr. Scaglione was convicted in 1981 in Federal District Court in Brooklyn on a charge of providing an unlicensed 9-millimeter semiautomatic pistol and a silencer to an undercover Federal informer. Mr. Scaglione’s brother-in-law, Dominick Cataldo, who, the authorities described as an important figure in the Colombo crime family, was also convicted in the case. After pleading guilty, Mr. Scaglione was placed on probation. Mr. Cataldo was sentenced to eight years in a Federal prison.

On February 29, 1980, Joe “the wop” Cataldo, who was described as a New York City loan shark, was accused of participating in a million dollar plot to sabotage the “Black Tuna” drug smuggling trial in Miami, Florida. This alleged plot involved plans to assassinate trial USDC Judge James Lawrence King, pay off key government witnesses, and otherwise disrupt the trial. [FBI NY-1639-2396, NY44-974-152; NY 24016-655; NY 44-1639-1556; 44-1639 4p teletype 11.28.63 Dallas to Albany] In July 1980 Mafia hitman Gerard Pappa was shot to death in Brooklyn by a Colombo hit squad. It was for revenge of carrying out the murder of suspected Colombo crime family stool pigeon Ralph Spero. He was murdered by Dominick Cataldo and his nephew Nicholas and Joseph Cataldo Jr., the sons of Colombo crime family Mafioso Joseph “the wop” Cataldo. Knowing how hard Gerard would be to kill, that he was always armed, very fast and very game, they were hiding in the luncheonette’s rear kitchen when he arrived. They approached him from behind and shot him in the head with a sawed-off shotgun, literally blowing his head to pieces. He was killed instantly. Sammy Gravano would later speak of feeling great sadness and remorse for the lost of his childhood friend. Genovese crime family mob boss Vincent Gigante was suspected of handing down the murder contract, but was acquitted of his alleged involvement in the murder in 1997.

In the mid-1980’s Carmine Persico, Hugh McIntosh, Gennaro Langella, John DeRoss, Anthony Scarpati, Alphonse Persico, Andrew Russo and Dominic Cataldo were convicted of various offenses arising from their participation in the affairs of the Colombo Family racketeering enterprise. All eight appellants were convicted of conspiracy to violate provisions of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (“RICO”), 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d) (1982), and seven of the appellants were convicted of substantive RICO violations, id. § 1962(c). In addition, the majority of appellants were convicted of various substantive offenses that also were charged as predicate racketeering acts. Dominic or “Little Dom” died in 2003.

The Warren Commission turned a blind eye to RUBY's Mafia connections. Ruby was in touch with some of the most notorious gangsters in America. You just don't call these guys to shoot the shit. In late September 1963 RUBY had a meeting with James Henry Dolan at the Town and Country Restaurant. As stated, James Henry Dolan was closely associated with R.D. Matthews. [HSCA V9 p423] On September 6, 1963, a call was made from the Carousel Club to the telephone number of R. D. Matthews estranged wife, Elizabeth Matthews. R. D. Matthews claimed he was not present during this conversation. Elizabeth Matthews told the FBI that she had not spoken to RUBY on that day: "A Special Services Officer from the Dallas Police Department named Dick Clark called me from the Carousel Club." Forty minutes after Elizabeth Matthews made this statement, Officer Dick Clark telephoned the FBI Field Office in Dallas and confirmed her story. The document that contained this information was culled for leads yet apparently never followed up. [FBI DL 44-1639-1120; FBI teletype 11.27.63 from SAC Las Vegas 44-48; WCE 2988, 2989] Jacob Yonover indicated RUBY had called him in October 1963. This call did not appear on RUBY'S toll records. On October 14, 1963, the Chicago FBI picked up the following during electronic surveillance of Sam Giancana and Anthony Accardo: "They discuss golf. Someone asks if Bobby Kennedy plays golf. They know that John Kennedy does. Suggest putting a bomb in his golf bag. (They all laugh)." [FBI 44-1636 12.2.63; HSCA V5 p447] On October 3, 1963, RUBY, or someone at the Carousel Club, called Elizabeth Matthews phone number and spoke for 13 minutes.

On October 16, 1963, RUBY called Harold Tannenbaum at Sam Tannenbaum's residence in Miami and spoke with him for almost 15 minutes. Sam Tannenbaum was the father of Harold Tannenbaum. On October 19, 1963, RUBY called an unidentified telephone number in Beverly Hills, California, and spoke with someone for 32 minutes. The FBI investigated three other long-distance calls RUBY made that day but never investigated this one. On October 22, 1963, RUBY received a call from Harold Tannenbaum who was back in New Orleans. Harold Tannenbaum called RUBY collect from a pay telephone somewhere in New Orleans rather than dialing RUBY directly from his home phone. He would follow this procedure through November 1963. Was he afraid his telephone was tapped? On October 23, 1963, RUBY called Michael Shore at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. On October 26, 1963, RUBY called Michael Shore at his home in California.

DATE	TIME CALL PLACED	DURATION OF CALL	TELEPHONE NO PLACING CALL	PERSON CALLED	TYPE CALL	AUDIT NUMBER	SUBSCRIBER	AUDIT NUMBER
10/26/63	12:07	012 MIN	WEINER IRWIN	WEINER	PERSONAL 7707 FR	R172362	DALLAS TX CAROUSEL CLUB 1312 1/2 COMMERCE ST DALLAS TX	7843
10/30/63	21:13	001 MIN	TROPICAL COURT		STATION 7708 FR	R172362	CAROUSEL CLUB 1312 1/2 COMMERCE ST DALLAS TX	7843
11/07/63	14:12	017 MIN	CAROUSEL CLUB		PERSONAL 7711 FR	R172362	ROBERT B BAKER	7828

SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE CALLS

DATE	TIME CALL PLACED	DURATION OF CALL	TELEPHONE NO PLACING CALL	PERSON CALLED	TYPE CALL	AUDIT NUMBER	SUBSCRIBER	AUDIT NUMBER
11/08/63	16:47	004 MIN	EDEN FOC HOTEL	DUSTY MILLER	PERSONAL 7711 FR	R172362	5400 SHERIDAN ROAD CHICAGO IL CAROUSEL CLUB 1312 1/2 COMMERCE ST DALLAS TX	7843
11/08/63	17:22	014 MIN	BAKER ROBERT		STATION 7712 FR	R172362	CAROUSEL CLUB 1312 1/2 COMMERCE ST DALLAS TX	7843

## IRWIN WEINER



Two hours later RUBY called Irwin Weiner, (born February 5, 1911) who the FBI described as "an associate of numerous low and high caliber notorious Chicago hoodlums, including JIMMY HOFFA, TRAFFICANTE, Sam Giancana and the Dorfman's." Bondsman Irwin Weiner was Allen Dorfman's co-defendant in his jury tampering trial. Irwin Weiner was a long time Chicago syndicate member and boyhood friend of JACK RUBENSTEIN. [*Rise & Fall of HOFFA* pgs 137-138, 145, 262, 266-268,364] On November 26, 1963, a confidential informant told a Chicago FBI Agent that he had overheard a conversation between Irwin Weiner and his business partner, Felix Alderisio, a top hoodlum. Irwin Weiner told him that he knew RUBY:

On November 26, 1963, informant advised that Irwin Weiner told Alderisio that he knew JACK RUBY, but had refused to talk to the FBI about it. Alderisio stated that he did not know RUBY and instructed Weiner not to talk to the FBI as they would then question him about other matters. [NARA 124-10138-10069]

When the FBI questioned Irwin Weiner about this call he refused comment. Irwin Weiner "admitted that he knew JACK RUBENSTEIN and stated that he did not want to discuss with anyone his knowledge of JACK RUBENSTEIN. It was pointed out to Irwin Weiner that this matter concerned the killing of the President and LEE OSWALD and certainly did not involve him or his associates. Irwin Weiner stated that he realized this, but that he still did not wish to discuss JACK RUBENSTEIN." No further attempts were made to interview him.[HSCA V9 para. 1341; HSCA Rep 155-159; HSCA V4 p564; HSCA Rep p176; HSCA V4 p498, HSCA V5 p374] In May 1964 Irwin Weiner and Felix Alderisio were indicted for extortion in Miami, Florida. In 1978 Irwin Weiner told a reporter that the call had nothing to do with RUBY'S so-called "labor problem." In his executive testimony before the HSCA Irwin Weiner stated he had lied to the reporter. Irwin Weiner suggested that he was seeking a bond necessary to obtain an injunction in his labor troubles. The HSCA could find no evidence that RUBY contemplated court relief, nor any explanation for his having to go to Chicago for such a bond. In 1978 Earl Ruby told the HSCA that Irwin Weiner, an old high school chum, had approached him one day before he was scheduled to testify before the Committee. Weiner had a "business proposition" for RUBY. According to Earl Ruby, he declined Irwin Weiner's proposition. Irwin Weiner testified that no such proposition occurred. Later that year Lewis J. McWillie testified that Earl Ruby had approached him with an unspecified proposition and that he (McWillie) immediately refused to even speak with him. When Earl Ruby was questioned about this by the HSCA he said that he talked with Lewis J. McWillie for five minutes. Earl Ruby stated: "I mentioned all the problems he had because of JACK, and that the gun JACK had sent him, which he never picked up, and that was about it. I realized he was involved with JACK and so much had been said about the gun JACK had sent him." [HSCA V5 p32, V4 p505] Irwin Weiner was indicted in 1975 for defrauding the Teamster Pension Fund of \$1.4 million. He was acquitted after the principal witness against him was murdered. Less than a month before Weiner's trial was scheduled to begin, two gunmen wearing stocking masks brazenly stalked through a busy factory in broad daylight, found the witness in his office and efficiently executed him.

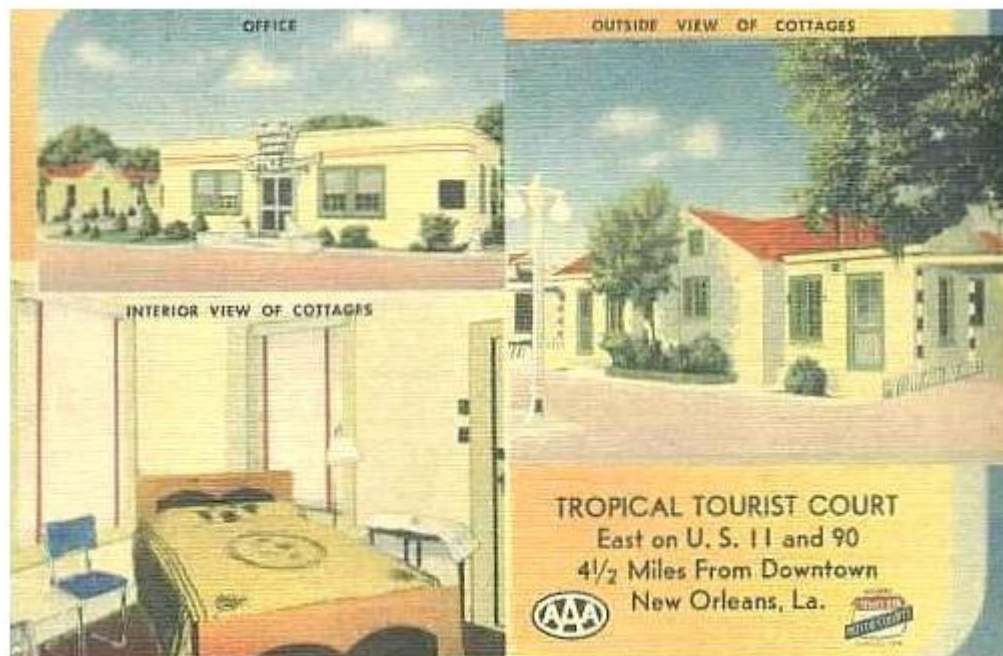
On October 29, 1963, someone called the Sho-Bar in Shreveport, Louisiana, from a coin station in Abe's Colony Club. RUBY'S nightclub was located a few blocks from the Colony Club and he was known to have frequently used the pay phone there. [FBI 44-24016-1219]

#### NOFIO PECORA

Late in the evening of May 5, 1947, a group of men gathered together in a room at the back of The Black Diamond, a nightclub in a seedy part of New Orleans that catered



almost exclusively for black people. The mob used this for a rendezvous in the belief that it would reduce the chance of surveillance. On this particular night, they were wrong and agents of the FBN (Federal Bureau of Narcotics) were checking out the expensively dressed white men who disembarked from limousines at the rear of the club and disappeared inside. Among those noted here that night, were Joe Poretto, heroin smuggler Nofio Pecora, and Carlos Marcello with brothers Vincent, Joseph, Peter and Anthony. Jake and Nick Marcello, Carlos' nephews were also in the party. Although supporters of Anthony Carolla put forward his name, they were outvoted by Carlos' men, and by the time the meeting was over, Carlos was the newly appointed head of the Louisiana Mafia. Anthony never forgot his displacement from what he obviously believed was his rightful ascension, and nineteen years later would bring his grievance up before a national Mafia commission meeting at a restaurant in New York. The Associated Press reported, "Nofio Pecora Sr., was considered by the FBI as a top lieutenant to Carlos Marcello, the New Orleans-based Mafia boss who controlled illegal gambling and drug distribution for most of the South from the 1940s through the 1970s." On February 28, 1974 the New York Times revealed that Nofio Pecora had received a \$210,000 disaster relief loan from the Federal Government. He was reported by law enforcement officials to be an associate of Carlos Marcello.



On October 30, 1963, RUBY called New Orleans once again.

This time he called 242-5431. This telephone number was listed under the name of Nofio Pecora at the Tropical Tourist Court and Trailer Park. The HSCA noted that CARLOS MARCELLO had placed several calls to the same number RUBY dialed - (242-5431). When HSCA investigators sought to question Nofio Pecora about this he

declined to respond. Later Nofio Pecora said he was the only person who had access to that number in 1963 but he denied having known RUBY. Nofio Pecora denied having relayed a message from RUBY to Harold Tannenbaum. The HSCA did, however, discover that Nofio Pecora was a "friend and colleague" of Harold Tannenbaum. Additionally, an associate of Nofio Pecora, James Henry Dolan, was an associate of RUBY, CARLOS MARCELLO and SANTOS TRAFFICANTE. [HSCA R pgs. 136, 170] One hour after RUBY and Nofio Pecora exchanged words, Harold Tannenbaum called RUBY collect and spoke with him for 21 minutes. One day after RUBY dialed the telephone number of Nofio Pecora he called Michael Shore in Beverly Hills, California.

In April 2004 Nofio's son, Nofio Pecora Jr., 54, entered his plea to a count of conspiring to commit mail fraud and structuring of monetary instruments at Certified Lloyd's Insurance Co. of Covington. In England, under the name John Stryker, Pecora owned Stryker's Railway, a popular pub on London's outskirts. He was arrested in December for trying to buy a firearm under false pretenses, and was extradited to Louisiana after authorities learned his true identity. Nofio Pecora's wife, who was a high official in the Department of Agriculture in Louisiana was also indicted in this matter.

On November 4, 1963, RUBY spoke with Harold Tannenbaum again. Harold Tannenbaum called collect. This was the last trace of communication between the two men as reflected by RUBY'S toll records. It was impossible to tell if Harold Tannenbaum ever called RUBY again since the FBI Field in New Orleans Office never requested any of the toll records of Harold Tannenbaum after July 1, 1963. [FBI 44-2064-69]

RUBY had called Harold Tannenbaum at least three times in the month preceding the assassination. These calls were placed to the Tropical Tourist Courts Trailer Park. He spoke with someone for a total of 40 minutes. [WCE 2303 p28; FBI N.O. 44-2064 11.29.63; Cong. Rec. 8.6.70 E7388] First RUBY had to talk to one of MARCELLO's subordinates to get permission to speak with the boss. Then he spoke with Don Carlos's underboss, Nofio Pecora, then he spoke with MARCELLO. The HSCA reported:

As noted Marcello was never the subject of electronic surveillance coverage by the FBI. The HSCA found that the Bureau did make two attempts to effect such surveillance during the early 1960's but both attempts were unsuccessful. Marcello's sophisticated security system and close-knit organizational structure may have been a factor in preventing such surveillance

BARNEY BAKER





On November 7, 1963, RUBY called Barney Baker in Chicago. Fearing his phone was tapped Barney Baker called him back from a pay phone and spoke with him for seven minutes. Robert Bernard Baker was born on August 16, 1911, in Brooklyn, New York. By age ten his immense size afforded him the title of neighborhood bully. An ex-convict (jailed three times in the 1930's), the 325 pound Barney Baker was a former professional boxer, longshoreman and bouncer before he joined the Teamsters. Barney Baker had the reputation of being JIMMY HOFFA's "roving ambassador of violence."

In 1934, Baker was convicted and sentenced to an indefinite term in the City Penitentiary in New York for setting off stench bombs in movie theaters. He served 1 year and was paroled but was sent back for setting off another stench bomb. He was paroled 1935. On March 15, 1936, while on parole, he was shot and wounded while getting into an automobile on 34th Street in Manhattan. Baker was with Johnny O'Rourke, the president of Local of the Teamster, Farmer Sullivan, a waterfront mobster, and Joe Butler, another waterfront mobster. O'Rourke was also wounded, Butler killed. Sullivan was unhurt, but his body was discovered a year or so later out in the Flats in New Jersey. It was never established who opened fire on these men, but 2 days later police raided a house of prostitution on West 90th Street, New York City. The raid was initiated by a tip believed to have come from the Dunne mob, of which Baker was a member.

In 1936 Barney Baker was shot during a Manhattan gang war - he was the strong arm man for a bunch of hoods who controlled the piers. In the late 1940's Barney Baker worked for Johnny "Cockeyed" Dunne as a mob enforcer. In the classic crime movie,

*Slaughter on Eighth Avenue*, an honest longshoreman was murdered by "Cock-eyed Cook and two of his meatballs." In reality, Barney Baker was one of these meatballs. Barney Baker joined the Teamsters Union in the early 1950's. According to the testimony of his wife, just before an opponent of JIMMY HOFFA's was killed in Indianapolis in the mid-1950's, Barney Baker told her that he had to go to Indianapolis "to take care of a shyster lawyer for JIMMY HOFFA." When the FBI ran traces on Barney Baker it came up with numerous Bureau cases that involved JIMMY HOFFA. [FBI 44-1639-4021] When things got hot in New York City, Barney Baker went to the Colonial Inn, where he served as doorman and bouncer. At the Colonial Inn Barney Baker became associated with Joe Adonis, Jake and Meyer Lansky, Vincent "JIMMY Blue-Eyes" Alo and Vincent "Piggy" Marchesi. [Kennedy, Robert - *The Enemy Within* - 1960 Harper Row NY; HSCA V9 p279] The HSCA questioned Barney Baker about this job:

Q. Was there ever an individual there at this club by the name of JACK RUBENSTEIN?

A. I know a lot of them gamblers but I never knew of that name JACK RUBENSTEIN. It is not familiar.

Q. Who were the acting owners of the club while you worked there?

A. Jake Lansky, Joe Adonis. I had no relationship with any of these gentlemen after the Colonial.

In the early 1960's Barney Baker was sent to prison for labor racketeering and was released on parole in June 1963.

#### EARL SCHEIB



Following RUBY'S conversation with Barney Baker, numerous telephone calls were placed from telephones available to Barney Baker, to various offices of the Earl Scheib Company, a national automobile repainting firm. At least one of these calls was placed to the main office of Earl Scheib in Los Angeles, which was investigated by the FBI in a case titled: "JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA; Earl Scheib Auto Paint Shops; et al. Miscellaneous Information Concerning," and in another June 1963 case captioned "Union Bank and Trust Company of Los Angeles Conspiracy Accounting Investigation." The latter case concerned an alleged check kiting scheme. [FBI 44-1639-4706, 44-1639-4701, 4696, 4661, 4654, 4703, 4628] Baker was working for Scheib at this time.

In 1978 Barney Baker was questioned by the HSCA about his association with Earl Scheib he stated: "I know Mr. Scheib before I went to prison, when I was with the unions... got along with him real nice ...his employees became Teamsters, I was

employed by Mr. HOFFA under Central States. I was more or less appointed Chairman of the Central States Chauffeurs Division." [HSCA V9 p293]

#### DAVE YARAS



YARAS AND MAFIA DON SANTO TRAFFICANTE

Barney Baker also telephoned Dave Yaras, a Teamster-connected alleged mob hitman who lived in Miami. Barney Baker called Dave Yaras from his home telephone, which was probably tapped, because he believed the home telephone of Dave Yaras was also tapped. Dave Yaras had known RUBY for 16 years and was indicted with Lenny Patrick, a boyhood friend of RUBY, for the murder of a race-track wire service operator who tried to buck the mob. Author Seth Kantor reported that Robert F. Kennedy, in his role as counsel on the Senate Rackets Subcommittee, charged Dave Yaras with having helped set up a corrupt a Teamsters Local in Miami and with having muscled in on gambling activities in Cuba in 1959. A FBI teletype revealed that Dave Yaras had attended the "hoodlum meeting" at the Eden Roc Hotel in November 1963 and was "possibly tied in with RUBY in connection with shylocking and girls." The Warren Commission received reports that linked RUBY to a nationwide betting network of which Dave Yaras was a part. In 1966, RUBY'S close friend, Louis Kopple, (born September 28, 1896; died June 1978) was arrested for running a betting center for Dave Yaras. In the mid 1960's the son of Dave Yaras was slain in a gangland episode in Miami. The HSCA asked Barney Baker about Dave Yaras: "Mr. Yaras is a friend, liked him very much, him and his family, I didn't have much contact with him in 1963, I believe he tried to help me one time get a job with some laundry his son was head of. Once or twice I

spoke with him on the phone in Florida." When asked about Lenny Patrick, Barney Baker stated: "I haven't seen Lenny Patrick. I saw him maybe once in my whole life, only visited him and I've never had any conversation pertaining to anything with Lenny Patrick. It's possible these men came from the same neighborhood as RUBY. But I never questioned or asked anybody after the incident where he came out of." [WCE 2352 p80; FBI 44-24016-302, 134] The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about Dave Yaras:

Q. Did JACK RUBY know Dave Yaras?

A. I don't know. I don't think so.

Q. Did you know Dave Yaras?

A. I knew who he was.

Q. Had you ever met him?

A. I don't think so, I knew his brother. He had a brother named Sam Yaras. I don't think I never met Dave. Is his name Dave? Is that the name? I don't think I ever met him. I met his brother. His brother had slot machines, in fact, his brother died in Dallas. JACK didn't know Sam Yaras.

Why had RUBY been in touch with front men for CARLOS MARCELLO and JIMMY HOFFA prior to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy? None of RUBY'S conversations with these men surfaced in any FBI surveillance transcripts of organized crime. Was RUBY bragging about the upcoming event to the Big Boys? Did Barney Baker tell RUBY he could talk to JIMMY HOFFA at the Eden Roc Hotel, if he called there the next day?

## EDEN ROC



In 1950 Morris Landsburgh of Miami Beach had formed a holding company that owned the Eden Roc Hotel. Circa 1960 Edward Partin met with JIMMY HOFFA at the Eden Roc. In 1973 Morris Landsburgh's long time association with Meyer Lansky was confirmed when he pleaded guilty to conspiring with Meyer Lansky to defraud the Internal Revenue Service. A FBI document revealed that throughout November 1963 syndicate-linked Teamster officials were meeting at the Eden Roc. JIMMY HOFFA was there, as was Murray W. Miller.

## RUBY NIXON AND "DUSTY" MILLER



On November 8, 1963, RUBY called Murray W. Miller's suite at the Eden Roc. Murray Miller better known as "Dusty" Miller was a Vice President of the Teamsters Union and Director of the Southern Conference of Teamsters. Miller was a trustee of the Central States Pension Fund from 1955 to 1968. "Dusty" Miller was the number three man in the Teamsters, only JIMMY HOFFA and Allen Dorfman preceded him, and as such was regarded as a possible successor to JIMMY HOFFA. "Dusty" Miller was associated with numerous underworld figures. [FBI-44-24016-302; *Miami Herald* 9.11.75 p7A Victor Riesel; FBI44-24016-976; *Wall St. Journal* 12.23.75 p1] In a 1978 interview with the HSCA,

"Dusty" Miller admitted having conversed with RUBY. RUBY had stated something to the effect that: "Barney Baker gave me your number and told me that maybe you could help me out." When "Dusty" Miller heard the name "Baker" he said he reacted by terminating the conversation, since "Dusty" Miller did not wish to become involved with an unsavory character. [HSCA V9 p199] In April 1972 Murray W. Miller of Dallas, Texas was appointed Secretary Treasurer of the Teamsters Union. In October 1975 NIXON played a round of golf at the La Costa Country Club with Dusty Miller. Allen Dorfman was also on the golf course that day. Miller filed a libel suit against a dissident Teamster faction for publishing this in *Overdrive*:

Take Murray (Dusty) Miller, 4th Vice-President of the International and Director of the Southern Conference. Dusty was a trustee of the Fund from its formation in 1955 until 1968. Before he left, Dusty borrowed \$1.6 million in 1965 from the Fund to buy Trinity Sand & Gravel in Dallas. Almost immediately, the Fund foreclosed on the company without a single penny having been paid on the loan. Almost as instantly, a new corporation was formed which borrowed another \$1.4 million from the Fund. This corporation Metropolitan Sand & Gravel was set up by St. Louis attorney Morris Shenker, and his ownership in it is 45%. Shenker is probably right behind Dorfman when it comes to having influence over the Fund. Shenker, though, specializes in dealing with the Mafia, a subject to be covered thoroughly in our next article. The 2,800 acres of land now controlled by Shenker, it appears, now is valued at \$300



million, thanks to a federal decision to build a multi-billion dollar barge channel through it from Dallas-Fort Worth to the Gulf of Mexico. This good fortune doesn't seem to have affected the company's payments to the Fund: \$1.1 million loan (This does not include the \$1.6 million. That is gone. Just ask Dusty.)

In August 1998 Services for retired Teamsters official Murray W. "Dusty" Miller were held at Restland Funeral Home's Wildwood Chapel. Mr. Miller, 82, died of a heart attack in St. Paul Medical Center in Dallas. He was buried in Restland Memorial Park. In 1971, Mr. Miller became the first Dallas labor leader appointed by a U.S. president to serve on a national committee. President Richard Nixon named Mr. Miller to a three-year term on a 35-member labor relations commission.

There was no roving wiretap on HOFFA and so the phone line in the Eden Roc was clean. RUBY talked to the man himself, JIMMY HOFFA, and told him that something was going to be done about JFK. The NIXON Miller connection at La Costa helps explain Nixon's presence in Dallas prior to the big event. Nixon was in Dallas to meet with JACK RUBY and assure him what he was doing was the right thing to do for American Jews. NIXON was attending a Pepsico convention as was RUBY'S close friend Larry Meyer's brother, Edward Meyers.

After dinner on November 21, 1963, RUBY returned to his nightclub where he was joined by Lawrence V. "Larry" Meyers and Jean Aase, both of Chicago. Lawrence Meyers was a salesman for the Ero Manufacturing Company. When the FBI studied the toll records of the ERO Manufacturing Company it found calls to corporations that were investigated for illegal arms shipments to Israel. [FBI NY-9444] Gateway Sporting Goods had shipped 500,000 ammunition primers to the United Lumber Company and then to Palestine. Lawrence Meyers knew RUBY for five or six years. RUBY set Lawrence Meyers up with prostitutes. [WCH V4 p627] In October 1963 Lawrence Meyers told one of RUBY'S strippers that he had business interests in Las Vegas and Minneapolis. [WCD 86 p567] Jean Aase was originally from Minneapolis where she had worked as a B-Girl and prostitute. [FBI 44-1639 -1200; *Chicago News* 9.29.64 p6] RUBY called a woman named "Smokey Turner" at the Gay 90's Bar in Minneapolis, Minnesota. [WCE2302, 2393] Jean Aase was described as a "dumb broad" from Chicago who was being used by Lawrence Meyers for sex during their trip to Dallas. When New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison subpoenaed David Ferrie's toll records he discovered that on September 24, 1963, David Ferrie called WH-4-4970 in Chicago, Jean Aase's number. [Garrison, Jim, *Heritage of Stone*, Berkeley, 1970 p125] Why would Ferrie be in touch with a prostitute in Chicago. This made no sense as did a lot of the Garrison investigation. In 1979, the House Select Committee on Assassinations "found that David W. Ferrie had called the number of Jean Aase" on September 24, 1963.

On November 21, 1963 at about 11:00 p.m., RUBY, Lawrence Meyers and Jean Aase went to the Cabana Motel for a late dinner. In the Cabana Motel's Bon Vivant Room they were joined by Edward Meyers, Lawrence Meyers brother. [WCE 2268] Ed Meyers

was President of the Queens Beverage Company, headquartered at the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Plant in Brooklyn, New York, and was in Dallas to attend a Convention of the American Bottlers of Carbonated Beverages. Edward Meyers was a member of the Pepsi-Cola delegation as was NIXON. Edward Meyers and his wife had just visited Mexico City and were staying at the Hotel Adolphus, which was located across the street from the Carousel Club. [WCD 86 p537; Kef. Hearings p627]

After this researcher published this information about Edward Meyers in *Coup D'Etat in America*, Meyers served me with a summons charging me with libel and demanding \$2 million. He never took the case to court.

RUBY had a cup of coffee, and at about 11:15 p.m., he left the Bon Vivant room. At 2:30 a.m. RUBY telephoned an employee at the Carousel Club and said he was still at the Cabana Motel. At about 3:00 a.m. RUBY was seen eating at a restaurant near the Vegas Club. [WR p334]

NIXON had no Secret Service protection while he was in Dallas and could roam around freely. The possibility exists that he could have had a late night meeting with RUBY somewhere in Dallas. NIXON was in Dallas prior to the coup for a reason and it was not to egg on the Bay of Pigs connected crew, some of whom (HUNT and STURGIS) would reappear years later as part of the White House Plumbers.

#### MORE PHONE CALLS

Returning to the chronology of his phone calls later that day (November 8, 1963) RUBY called Barney Baker. Barney Baker told the HSCA that this call never took place. On November 11, 1963, RUBY called Barney Baker again. A few minutes later Barney Baker called RUBY from his office telephone. [FBI 44-645 1.3.64 Chicago, Ill. John R. Bassett, DC 44-1639-L-Cover Page; WCE 2332] The HSCA questioned Barney Baker about these calls:

I'm under oath at this moment. I don't want no headaches. I'm giving it to you straight. The only time he called was the first time (November 7, 1963)...I didn't know him, never knew him. When I came to Chicago I believe he was already out of Chicago. He called me about a labor dispute.

When confronted with evidence of the November 8, 1963, telephone call Barney Baker stated:

Maybe he did call me, in his desperation, and the party that he says, mutual friend, might have been even there at the time for all I know, I might have told him this guy could do it, braggadocio, you know, with the guy. Must have known me - he had my number. I didn't give it to him...tell you the truth, I can't conceive of a 14 minute conversation unless he said 'Hold the wire,' went and had a drink or something, go to the lavatory,

come back. I never talked long with him ...maybe ten minutes, off the top of my head. But I never heard from him again after all that...I was not very surprised when the FBI showed up, I figured sooner or later. I don't underrate no one. I know they're going to hit them right away. But I was going through unnecessary quizzing at the time, I was innocent of the event. I didn't even know this guy. After the assassination I didn't want to know who he was. I didn't even want to look at T.V. anymore. I didn't want no part of it. I couldn't duck it...After that thing happened I did go around to asking people, did you ever know this guy RUBY on the West Side, in a restaurant, where they have Jewish food. They all congregate in there general talking. Never one person by name that I can identify...they were raised with him, they went to school with him.

Barney Baker was questioned by the HSCA about his associates, many of whom were also associates of RUBY. Barney Baker:

Sure I know Irwin Weiner, he's been in the bail business downtown. I think we had some business with him...we had a good friend, I think, in Milwaukee, Phil, was a good friend of his. I used to see them together. In fact, I see him now, very friendly. I knew 'Dusty' Miller. 'Dusty' was a hell of a nice guy. JACK RUBY mentioned my name to Miller....this fellow is, nervy enough to go anywhere angels fear to tread...Joe Glaser. He used to manage a band or something in Chicago. That's all I know about him. Paul Dorfman was a friend of Mr. HOFFA so I met him and he's a real nice man...I had no business relationships at all. I believe he had his own union, some independent Wastepaper Union.

Barney Baker was asked if he knew that RUBY was an organizer of this union: "Not with Mr. Paul Dorfman, with Mr. Paul Dorfman?" When asked about Allen Dorfman, he responded: "Allen Dorfman, the only relationship I have with him is that I'm employed by him now, I work for him."

Barney Baker was also acquainted with Dominick Bartone. Barney Baker: "I only met him because he had some meetings with Mr. HOFFA. That's all in 1959, 1960." Then the questioning turned to Edward Partin's accusation that JIMMY HOFFA planned to assassinate Robert F. Kennedy. Barney Baker:

I never heard him say kill Bob Kennedy. He'd like to knock his brains out, have a fist fight with him... I met Frank Chavez, around four days before JIMMY went away, at the International Office in Washington, D.C. I can't believe he had come to Washington, D.C., with a rifle to shoot Bobby Kennedy. Well the guy has to be insane to do something like that, for God's sake. These guys, they're doing their job. They're taking you on. Win, lose or draw. Buddy you don't resort to that, you don't kill people. That would be an awful thing.



RUBY didn't need Dusty Miller or Barney Baker's help in solving a petty labor dispute. This was overkill at its worst. RUBY contacted these men so that HOFFA would know that RUBY had been involved in something very big. On November 12, 1963, RUBY tried to reach Frankie Goldstein by telephone. RUBY had not spoken with Frank Goldstein for many years judging from the fact he called another Frankie Goldstein before he reached the one wanted. The nature of RUBY'S conversation with Frankie Goldstein was a matter of speculation - maybe, he wanted Frankie Goldstein to relay a message to his associates in Las Vegas, or perhaps he had called his ex-employer to tell him that in a few weeks he would be a point holder in a big Las Vegas casino and might be hiring him as a pit boss. Later that day RUBY had a meeting with Paul Roland Jones. Paul Roland Jones told the FBI he happened to be in Dallas and decided to meet with his friend. [FBI 44-24016-778, 725, 724] In June 1964, Charles Woods, the President of a television station in Dotman, Alabama, visited FBI Headquarters in Birmingham. Charles Woods, a former member of the Alabama Board of Correction, had been in contact with the bondsman of Paul Roland Jones. Paul Roland Jones told the bondsman that his visit to Dallas was connected with his position in "Murder Incorporated," an "organization that murders for a price." [FBI 44-24016-1747; LHM Mobile, Alabama 6.16.64 copy destroyed 1.2.73; FBI 44-826 6.23.64 Charlotte N.C. J.M. Underhill; LHM Charlotte 6.29.64 copies destroyed 1.2.73; FBI 44- 24016-1664, 1538]

### CORINNE BURGESS

During November 1963 RUBY generally made at least three or four long distance calls each day. On November 14, 1963, he only made one, to Ralph Paul in Arlington, Texas, at 1:13 p.m. Later that afternoon RUBY was seen at a small motel in Morgan City, Louisiana. Morgan City's major industry was gambling, wide-open and controlled by CARLOS MARCELLO. Corinne Burgess contacted FBI S.A. Ernest Wall, New Orleans, on November 26, 1963, and told him that she had seen RUBY at the Newport Motel in Morgan City where she worked as a cashier at about 1:00 p.m. on November 14, 1963. [FBI report of S.A. Manning C. Clements, 11.30.63 at Dallas, pgs. 449, 649] RUBY told her that he was an old friend of the motel's owner, Peter Guarisco, and had come from Dallas to see him. When Corinne Burgess told RUBY that Peter Guarisco was not on the premises, he asked her if Vick Guarisco was there. Peter Guarisco denied having known RUBY.

On February 20, 1967, excited by the New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation, Corrine Burgess called the FBI and said that she had not told the Bureau everything she knew in 1963 because she had been threatened by Peter Guarisco. She said that RUBY was accompanied by someone who looked like OSWALD. RUBY said: "I'm a friend of CARLOS MARCELLO." [FBI 62-109060-4513; FBI 89-43-5720-Dallas; FBI DC-89-69-1412] The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about Guarisco:

Q. Did JACK RUBY know a man named Pete Guarisco?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. Did you know Pete Guarisco?

A. No, never heard of him.

Q. Do you know if RUBY knew CARLOS or VINCENT MARCELLO?

A. Is that the fellow in New Orleans? I wouldn't think so, no wouldn't think he'd know him.

Q. Did you ever know CARLOS or VINCENT MARCELLO?

A. No sir, I sure don't.

Q. Never met them?

A. Never met them in my life.

### THE THEORY OF RUBY IN LAS VEGAS



On November 16, 1963, RUBY flew to Las Vegas. In return for taking out OSWALD, RUBY was going to be made a point-holder in a Las Vegas casino. Evidence of RUBY'S trip to Las Vegas during the weekend prior to the assassination reached Las Vegas Sheriff Ralph Lamb when a confidential informant, who was rated as being "a very reliable source" told him: "RUBY was at the Tropicana Hotel the weekend before Kennedy was shot and killed...his host was Preston Fineberg, a point-holder in the Tropicana. Fineberg let him use his Rolls-Royce." [FBI 44-24016-288; FBI LV-44-48 Cover Page S,U] On the same day Sheriff Lamb received this report, the FBI was furnished with similar information by one of its Potential Criminal Informants, who was the cashier at the Tropicana Hotel:

A 'JACK RUBY' stayed at the Tropicana Hotel about November 16, 1963, and made several long-distance calls. After the President was shot I tried to locate the records of these calls and his hotel registration, I couldn't find them, which really shook-me-up, because I personally checked-out his telephone account from the front office when he checked out. She is unable to explain how the hotel records of JACK RUBY disappeared. Potential Criminal Informant has heard that bartender Ernie Muscatelle and bellmen 'Chuck' knew RUBY was at hotel. Potential Criminal Informant's reliability unknown due to limited number of contacts." [FBI-44-24016-121; LV 44-48 Cover Page V; FBI- 44-24016-1787]

The FBI checked out this report with another Potential Criminal Informant and was told:

JACK RUBY was a good friend of Preston Feinberg. RUBY came to Vegas a lot. He always visited Feinberg who he knew from the old days in Chicago. Potential Criminal Informant advised RUBY has used the names Rubin or Ruben and has brought strippers to Las Vegas and has often registered at Tropicana Hotel as Mr. and Mrs. while staying in Las Vegas with these girls. On November 17, 1963, the Saturday before the assassination, JACK played golf with Feinberg. [FBI DC 44-1639 AS:gj p257]

Before the FBI received any of these informants reports, Benny Binnion told the FBI one day after RUBY shot OSWALD: "RUBY was at the Tropicana recently." Another Potential Criminal Informant, Charles Llyod Hammer, said that RUBY never visited the casino.

A. J. Ricci, Bell Captain, Tropicana Hotel, advised the FBI that JACK RUBY was rumored to have been in Las Vegas, recently, and stayed at the Tropicana. The FBI:

He could not recall having seen RUBY. He heard RUBY played golf at the Tropicana Country Club, however, he feels sure if RUBY had been in the Tropicana he would have known about it. He recalls one year ago a JACK RUBY whom he believes identical with Subject, came to Las Vegas, and had him make reservations for a flight to Chicago. He stated that while making these reservations RUBY changed the spelling of his name several times. He recalls RUBY changed the name to Rubin, Ruben and RUBENSTEIN. He does not recall under which name the reservations were made.

Preston Fineberg denied having known RUBY in Chicago, and he said he was never in Texas. He said the Rolls Royce was being repaired during the period in question. Ernest Muscatelle, the bartender at the Tropicana said he did not know RUBY.

More people said that RUBY was in Las Vegas than said he was not in Las Vegas. Of course the FBI listened to the minority of witnesses, because RUBY'S presence there would have raised a lot of questions. While RUBY was in Vegas, George Senator ran the Carousel Club with the help of Ralph Paul. [FBI LV 44-48 FD-302 with John D. Gaughan 11.25.63 at LV Nevada James Doyle; FBI LV 44-NEW p9, 10; LV 44-48; DL 44-1639 H cover page] The FBI reported:

Information received that in 1958 Bob Cannon Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada stated that Rosselli was manager in fact of this hotel from the time it opened in 1957 until summer of 1958. Judith Campbell Exner friend of Rosselli and of Sam Giancana, Chicago, Illinois, (deleted). [FBI 92-3267-260]

Another FBI report stated:

Information has previously been reported in this investigation, received from more than one source, that when the Tropicana Hotel was opened in 1957 that Rosselli conducted himself in such a manner that these sources were of the impression that he had something to do with the management of the hotel. On June 27, 1962, LA T-18 furnished information that in 1958 Mr. Bob Cannon manager of the Hotel Tropicana, stated that since the hotel was opened he had been manager in name only and that all departments had been run by John Rosselli and that Rosselli told every department head what to do around the place and that this situation prevailed until recently (August 1958).

The name "Milt Jaffee, Los Angeles" was found among RUBY'S effects. The FBI questioned Milton Jaffee, an owner of the Stardust Casino in Las Vegas who was the Subject of an Anti-Racketeering case. Jaffee denied having known RUBY.

RUBY returned to Dallas on Sunday, November 17, 1963. On Monday, November 18, 1963, *The New York Times* began a series of articles on mob "skimming" in Las Vegas' casinos. On Monday, November 18, 1963, RUBY went back to the Cabana Motel. RUBY was spotted by a wholesale jeweler who was having a snack at the Cabana coffee shop.

RUBY & OFFICER J.D. TIPPIT



Some time before the assassination, possibly on Tuesday, November 19, 1963, evidence suggested that RUBY held a clandestine meeting with Patrolman J.D. TIPPIT. (Born September 18, 1924.) TIPPIT, a former paratrooper and father of three, joined the Dallas Police Department in July 1952. In his 11 years on the force, his name never came up for promotion. A psychiatric report of November 17, 1952, characterized TIPPIT as "wholly devoid of imaginative facilities." It indicated

...his interests and achievements were limited, and that his mental functioning and thinking corresponded with the community at large. His grip on reality was below average and it was noted that errors of judgement could be expected...On September 2, 1956, TIPPIT and his partner received a call for a routine investigation at a bar where a white intoxicated male was present. When asked to leave this man attempted to shoot TIPPIT in the head; however the gun did not fire. TIPPIT and his partner drew their service revolvers and killed the individual, who was later identified as Leonard Garland. [FBI 62-109060-3194; FBI Bufile 26-221633 - Garland's ITSM charges dated 1957]

TIPPIT was described by Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry as having the reputation of being "a very fine dedicated officer." During the Warren Commission Hearings Allen Dulles allegedly remarked that TIPPIT may have been involved, in some unspecified manner, with narcotics. [?] Travis Kirk, an attorney who had practiced law for 23 years

in Dallas told the FBI that he was personally acquainted with Officer TIPPIT: "A lady once came to my office about TIPPIT - she wanted to press charges against him - he had apparently raped her during one of his investigations." Travis Kirk was also a friend of RUBY. [Travis Kirk re: TIPPIT FBI SF 44-494 FD-302, 11.29.63 Rauch; WCH V4, pgs. 177-178] Ray Brantley was another TIPPIT-RUBY link since he also knew both men. [Tel. con with Brantley]

#### TIPPIT'S WEEKEND EMPLOYMENT

TIPPIT worked for a local John Bircher on week-ends. TIPPIT's boss, Austin Cook, told the FBI that although he was a member of the John Birch Society, he had never discussed politics with TIPPIT and did not believe TIPPIT was interested in politics. The HSCA interviewed Austin Cook on March 9, 1978. Austin Cook was asked if he had had known RUBY. He replied that he may have met RUBY, but he could not recall. Yet Austin Cook was partners with Bert Bowman in the ownership of the Bull-Pen Restaurant which was later sold to MARCELLO front man Ralph Paul. The Bowmans had known Ralph Paul since he had moved to Dallas and at the time of the assassination Ralph Paul lived in the Bowman's home. Mrs. Bowman told the Committee that Ralph Paul had been a source of funds for Bert Bowman. Ralph Paul had brought RUBY to the Bowman's house on numerous occasions. The HSCA interviewed Mrs. Austin Cook who told them that Ralph Paul was a mutual friend of the Cooks and RUBY. [HSCA V12 p41]

#### THE DOBBS HOUSE RESTAURANT NOVEMBER 20, 1963

On Wednesday, November 20, 1963, OSWALD and Dallas Police Officer J.D. TIPPIT both ate in the same restaurant. Evidence suggested OSWALD had been ordered to go there by his "case officer" and TIPPIT was told to appear by RUBY. RUBY wanted TIPPIT to get a good look at OSWALD so there would be no confusion on November 22, 1963. Waitress Mary Adda Dowling told the FBI she had seen both men eating at Dobbs House at 8:00 a.m. Dobbs House was located across the street from 1026 North Beckley.[WCD 1364; HSCA V12 p37] TIPPIT stared at OSWALD as he ate. Did OSWALD make a mental note of TIPPIT's face? Delores Harrison, another waitresses at the Dobbs House, remembered the two men eating there and told the FBI about it. [WCE 3001; WCD 1364; WCD205, p224] Douglas Leake, also employed at Dobbs House remembered seeing OSWALD there. [FBI 44-1636-1659]



#### RUBY AND THE FAMILY OF H.L. HUNT NOVEMBER 21, 1963

On the morning of Thursday, November 21, 1963, at about 11:00 a.m., RUBY called Connie Trammel, a former University student who

said she knew him, but had never worked for him. A half hour later Connie Trammel and RUBY drove to Lamar Hunt's office. Connie Trammel called Lamar Hunt at his unlisted home telephone number at which time the maid gave her the telephone number of a straight line into Lamar Hunt's office. [ FBI DL 44-1639 7.9.64 Dallas W. H. Griffin] On July 10, 1964, Connie Trammel told the FBI that RUBY expressed an interest in meeting Lamar Hunt and accompanied her to the elevator in office building but did not accompany her upstairs. Connie Trammel was interviewed by Lemar Hunt, allegedly about a job in a "teen-age club." Lamar Hunt died on December 13, 2006.

Why was RUBY interested in the Hunt family at this time? RUBY was aware that a conspiracy was afoot to kill President Kennedy, however, he was not made aware of the personnel who were involved in the conspiracy. Perhaps he had heard the name "HUNT" in connection with the conspiracy and thought it referred to H.L. Hunt. All RUBY had been told was that he had to have a Dallas Police officer take out LEE HARVEY OSWALD on November 22, 1963. That was all RUBY had to do. RUBY wondered who the sponsors were. He might have suspected that, since the assassination was going to take place in Dallas, ultra-conservative Dallas oil millionaire H.L. Hunt was behind it.

SAM CAMPISI  
NOVEMBER 21, 1963

In the early evening of November 21, 1963, RUBY met with Sam Campisi and Ralph Paul at Joe Campisi's Egyptian Lounge. In May 1978 Joe Campisi was questioned by the HSCA:

Q. Were you acquainted or are you acquainted with either VINCENT or CARLOS MARCELLO of New Orleans?

A. I know VINCENT and I met Mr. CARLOS MARCELLO about, maybe, six years ago. After all of these years that they had associated me with him I had never met the man.

Q. When did you first meet VINCENT MARCELLO?

A. It was on a junket going out of New Orleans and we went on that junket with him and I was introduced to him at the airport, and I never did see him again for about three or four months. I went back to New Orleans and went to a party and he was at the party, and we got to talking...I didn't know him. I knew JOE, the one in the restaurant business before I knew any of them...I have known JOE MARCELLO ever since I have been in the location that I am in now by meeting him through the restaurant, went out to have dinner with him. I went out and had dinner at their restaurant, you know and for a long time when I went to New Orleans I would never go there...I was scared to go there.

Q. Because of its general reputation?

A. Right, and so I came back and I told Joe Civello about it, and we laughed. He said "Do you mean you wouldn't go out there to eat?" and I says "No sir." He says, "You live here in America and you are scared to go somewhere?" and that made a point. So I said, "Well, why should I hide from something?" So the next time I went down there I went out to dinner and that's how I met him. I used to see little SAMMY MARCELLO at football games...Then I started going there and started playing golf with VINCENT. He invited me as a member guest and then I got to know SAMMY. Then I met ANTHONY and "go ahead and call JOE" and everything, you know...and I have seen CARLOS MARCELLO, how many times in my lifetime? One, two, three, four times in my lifetime.

Q. Were these times in New Orleans or...

A. Yes.

Q. In Dallas?

A. Never been to Dallas. To my knowledge he has never been to Dallas.

Q. What was the occasion of your meeting CARLOS MARCELLO in New Orleans?

A. Well, I had told the brothers that I had never met CARLOS. They couldn't believe it. "You have never met CARLOS?" I said, "No, I have never met your brother CARLOS," so I flew in one day for a golf tournament and ANTHONY picked me up and he said "Well, let's stop at the Town and Country and you can go meet CARLOS." So we get there and there were some people in the office, and he introduced me, blah, blah, blah, and so we just left, you know. Then the next time...he goes to Grand Isle every year to that fishing place. So we thought we would drive down there and go see him, and we went down there and I cooked spaghetti sauce for them...and stayed there for maybe four or five hours, and we drove back. Then the next time I saw him was at a fishing camp that they have there. The next time I was invited to the opening of Broussard's Restaurant and I met him there. I had talked to him on the phone a couple of times. He has called me and asked me if I needed any soft shell crabs, and every year I send them 260 pounds of Italian sausage that I send to them for Christmas to give to all of the brothers and what friends I have there...I have a lot of relatives there and I send sausage to all of them.

Q. Have you had any business dealings with any of the MARCELLO brothers?

A. No sir. [HSCA V9 para. 923]



Despite Sam Campisi's claim that he did not meet MARCELLO until the 1970's, Sam Campisi was a definite link between MARCELLO and RUBY.

### THE COINCIDENCE OF THE BLACK BORDERED AD

On the morning of November 22, 1963, a full-page black bordered advertisement was published in *The Dallas Morning News*. This ad, which criticized President Kennedy from a John Birch Society-like perspective, was signed by Bernard Weissman (born November 1, 1937) who was Jewish.

### CONSERVATISM USA

Bernard Weissman was a friend of Larry Schmidt. While in the Army, Larry Schmidt and a group of con men decided to exploit the "gold mine" of the radical right. The group consisted of Larry Schmidt, Larry Jones and Bernard Weissman and it called itself Conservatism USA. The group planned to hold right-wing demonstrations in Munich, Germany, in conjunction with the National Indignation Committee, to gain credibility and support from men like Frank McGehee. Members of the National Indignation Committee who were still in the Army feared arrest. Larry Jones noted that McGehee was an anti-Semite and so he suggested that Weissman covert to Christianity immediately so that the con game would not fail. In April 1962, Larry Schmidt and his brother, moved to Dallas. Larry Schmidt's brother became an aide to General Walker. Larry Schmidt became the Vice Chairman of the Young Americans For Freedom, a conservative Republican youth group.

CUSA's purpose was to penetrate the leadership of popular anti-Communist organizations, such as the National Indignation Committee, in order to embezzle the organization's funds. In 1964 Albert Jenner asked Bernard Weissman: "This group, or partnership's, material objective was ultimately a self-interest in business?" Bernard Weissman answered, "No."

Larry Schmidt's associates pretended to be conservatives and some were warned: "No jazz, no jive, no bullshit, no slang...down here a Negro is a nigger. No one, and I mean no one, is ever to say a kind word about niggers. Only liberals do that. Liberals are our enemies. Never forget that. Set Bernie straight on that. On the other hand the KKK is passe. Don't praise it. Don't preach race hatred." [WCE 1036 Vol. XVIII] Schmidt managed to infiltrate the National Indignation Committee and sent Jones progress reports on National Indignation Committee stationery. Conservatism USA targeted General Walker and the John Birch Society.

### THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY USES BERNARD WEISSMAN



Joseph Grinnan, a member of the John Birch Society, contacted Larry Schmidt and Bernard Weissman in Dallas. Bernard Weissman came to Dallas to see Larry Schmidt in November 1963. Joseph Grinnan gave Larry Schmidt and Bernard Weissman the money to place the black-

bordered ad. The ad was signed by Bernard Weissman, who was advised that his name appeared on the advertisement to counter the charges of anti-Semitism which had been leveled against the John Birch Society. Conservatism U.S.A.'s con game was working and the group was obtaining funds from the John Birch Society. After November 22, 1963, Mark Lane told the Warren Commission that an undisclosed informant said Bernard Weissman had met with JACK RUBY on November 14, 1963.

There was no evidence the meeting between Weismann and Ruby occurred. Lane's information made it seem as if the Kennedy assassination was a Jewish plot. Robert Morris, Joseph Grinnan's Counsel, told the FBI that Larry Schmidt wrote an article "relating his experience while working with Manolo Ray in the Cuban underground." On November 26, 1963, Bernard Weissman left Dallas and returned to New York.

### THE FBI INVESTIGATES THE BLACK BORDERED AD

William C. Sullivan conducted a preliminary inquiry into the black bordered ad, then assigned William A. Branigan, Section Chief, Espionage Section, Domestic Intelligence Division, to the investigation. William Branigan determined: "A review of Bufiles fails to reveal any identifiable security data relating to Schmidt, Grinnan, Weissman or William Milton Burley." William Branigan sent a letter to the CIA asking for information on them. Birch O'Neal responded with a document that stated: "The records of this office contain information about one Bill Burley, a U.S. Air Force Tech Sergeant, stationed in Libya in 1958 who may have been involved in nefarious activities." Bill Burley had contact with:

(FNU) Babington, a British soldier and his German wife Irene...Heinz Koliechik...a German national, born circa 1913 to 1918. Our files reveal that your Bureau has forwarded to this office a report dated November 29, 1959, prepared by James P. Wooten (A) entitled Czechoslovak Funds, New York Division Page 16 of that report contained the name Bernard Weissman, Dolni Podluzi C 48 on whose order \$3.00 drawn for one Robert Kobler...The date cited was October 17, 1956. The above information is provided as a result of a preliminary check of our records. The records of this office contain no additional information which at this time can be identified as pertaining to the persons who might be identical with the man who placed the newspaper ad, or to persons who might have been in contact with them. [CSCI 3/778,894]

William Milton Burley had failed to report for military induction in 1961 and was interviewed by the FBI. The FBI concluded in a telex to seven of its Field Offices: "No connection was found between those placing the advertisement and RUBY and OSWALD; the advertisement was written by Larry Schmidt and Joseph Grinnan, (both John Birch Society members); funds for the enterprise were furnished by an(unidentified) group of well-to-do Dallas businessmen; Weissman and Burley were merely tools in the enterprise. In view of the foregoing, all offices immediately discontinue this matter." [words in parentheses were taken from a Branigan/Sullivan document based on this telex; FBI DL-100-10461 10.7.64-Richard J. Burnett; DL-100-

10461 4.23.64 -p301, DL-89-43-EDK/BOD-p701, 62-109060-3956, 62-109060-1483; ltr. from U.S. Security Council 3.14.78; WCD 780; CIA 97.]

A March 18, 1968, CIA document titled Lawrence Schmidt stated: "Larry Schmidt, General Walker's associate, was supposed to have worked with Gordon Novel in Dallas. (Deleted.)" [*Allen v. DOD* 40318 142; WR p333; NARA Record Number: 104-10312-10026]

#### RUBY AND H.L. HUNT

On the morning of Friday, November 22, 1963, RUBY awoke at approximately 11:00 a.m. When RUBY saw the ad he sensed a double-cross. If President Kennedy was killed on the day this advertisement was published, his murder would be associated with the Jews since "Bernard Weissman" was a typically Jewish name and a black border was symbolic of an obituary. RUBY knew that H.L. Hunt was a notorious anti-Semite, and this confirmed his suspicions that H.L. Hunt was behind the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

RUBY'S employee, Andrew Armstrong, Jr., a black man who had served five years for a marijuana offense, worked for the Hunt family just before RUBY hired him in January 1962 as a maintenance man at an apartment building. Andrew Armstrong, Jr. knew RUBY since the early 1950's when Andrew Armstrong, Jr. was a vocalist at RUBY'S club. Andrew Armstrong, Jr. testified that he became acquainted with the Campisi family in 1970 and his nephew eventually went to work at the Egyptian Lounge.[HSCA V9 para. 923]

Additionally, after RUBY was arrested for shooting OSWALD, the Dallas police found transcripts of H.L. Hunt's *Lifeline* Radio Broadcasts in the trunk of RUBY'S car. [WR p367] RUBY was convinced that the Dallas chapter of the John Birch Society was controlled by the Hunt family.

RUBY: NOVEMBER 22, 1963

# WELCOME MR. KENNEDY TO DALLAS...

- ... A CITY is disgraced by a recent Liberal smear attempt that its citizens have just elected the more Conservative Americans to public office.
- ... A CITY that is an economic "boom town," not because of Federal handouts, but through conservative economic and business practices.
- ... A CITY that will continue to grow and prosper despite efforts by you and your administration to paralyze it for its nonconformity to "New Internationalism."
- ... A CITY that rejected your philosophy and policies in 1964 and will do so again in 1968—more emphatically than before.

**MR. KENNEDY**, despite contentions on the part of your administration, the State Department, the Mayor of Dallas, the Dallas City Council, and members of your party, we free-thinking and America-loving citizens of Dallas still have, through a Constitution largely ignored by you, the right to address our grievances, to question you, to disagree with you, and to criticize you.

In asserting this constitutional right, we wish to ask you publicly the following questions—indeed, questions of paramount importance and interest to all free peoples everywhere—which we trust you will answer ... in public, without sophistry. These questions are:

**WHY** is Latin America turning either anti-American or Communist, or both, despite increased U.S. foreign aid, State Department policy, and your own Ivy Tower pronouncements?

**WHY** do you say we have built a "wall of freedom" around Cuba when there is no freedom in Cuba today? Because of your policy, thousands of Cubans have been imprisoned, are starving and being persecuted—with thousands already murdered and thousands more awaiting execution and, in addition, the entire population of almost 7,000,000 Cubans are living in slavery.

**WHY** have you approved the sale of wheat and corn to our enemies when you know the Communist soldiers "travel on their stomachs" just as ours do? Communist soldiers are daily wounding and/or killing American soldiers in South Viet Nam.

**WHY** did you host, salute and entertain Tito—Moscow's Trojan Horse—just a short time after our sworn enemy, Khrushchev, embraced the Yugoslav dictator as a great hero and leader of Communism?

**WHY** have you urged greater aid, comfort, recognition, and understanding for Yugoslavia, Poland, Hungary, and other Communist countries, while turning your back on the pleas of Hungarian, East German, Cuban and other anti-Communist freedom fighters?

**WHY** did Cambodia kick the U.S. out of its country after we poured nearly 400 Million Dollars of aid into its ultra-leftist government?

**WHY** has Gus Hall, head of the U.S. Communist Party praised almost every one of your policies and announced that the party will endorse and support your re-election in 1968?

**WHY** have you banned the showing at U.S. military bases of the film "Operation Abolition"—the movie by the House Committee on Un-American Activities exposing Communism in America?

**WHY** have you ordered or permitted your brother Bobby, the Attorney General, to go soft on Communists, fellow-travelers, and ultra-leftists in America, while permitting him to persecute loyal Americans who criticize you, your administration, and your leadership?

**WHY** are you in favor of the U.S. continuing to give economic aid to Argentina, in spite of the fact that Argentina has just seized almost 400 Million Dollars of American private property?

**WHY** has the Foreign Policy of the United States degenerated to the point that the C.I.A. is arranging coups and having staunch Anti-Communist Allies of the U.S. bloodily exterminated?

**WHY** have you scrapped the Monroe Doctrine in favor of the "Spirit of Moscow"?

**MR. KENNEDY**, as citizens of these United States of America, we DEMAND answers to these questions, and we want them NOW.

## THE AMERICAN FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE

"An unaffiliated and non-partisan group of citizens who wish truth"

BERNARD WEISSMAN,  
Chairman

P.O. Box 1792—Dallas 21, Texas

PHOTOCOPYED AND REPRODUCED

*The Dallas Morning News carried this full-page 'advertisement' on 22 November*

RUBY drove to the *Dallas Morning News* building, which over looked Dealey Plaza. He arrived there at about 11:30 a.m. and spoke with advertising employee Don Campbell from about noon until 12:25 p.m., when Don Campbell left his office. When Don Campbell's secretary returned from lunch she noticed that RUBY was sitting in a chair directly in front of her desk: "I am not sure which way he was looking but I have the impression that he was looking out at the scene where President Kennedy was assassinated. You see, sitting in the chair RUBY was sitting in, you can see the Texas School Book Depository, and the very window OSWALD fired from." RUBY'S first reaction to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy concerned the Bernard Weissman advertisement. RUBY opened *The Dallas Morning News* to the pages that contained the advertisement. "Who is this Weissman?" RUBY asked. Shortly afterward confusion reigned in *The Dallas Morning News* office as advertisers telephoned to cancel advertising they had placed for the weekend. RUBY opined that some of these

cancellations were motivated by the Bernard Weissman advertisement. Ten minutes later RUBY called his sister, then called Andrew Armstrong, Jr. at the Carousel Club and told him: "If the President dies we will close the club." This was RUBY'S next concern - that John Kennedy had actually been killed and was not just wounded. RUBY left the *Dallas Morning News* building at about 1:20 p.m. and drove to Parkland Hospital where he was observed by Seth Kantor and Wilma Tice. In July 1964, Wilma Tice received a threatening phone call that advised her to "keep her mouth shut or be killed." The next day someone attempted to break into her home. [FBI 44-1639 - 582; FBI 62-109060-3680; HSCA RUBY Chronology]

An official statement was issued at about 1:25 p.m. that the President was dead. At 1:40 p.m. RUBY was at the Carousel Club and at 1:51 p.m. he called Ralph Paul and spoke with him for three minutes, while a radio at the Carousel played in the background.

### RUBY AND TIPPIT

At about 1:55 p.m. the first news came over the air about the death of Officer TIPPIT. Curtis La Verne Crafard, an employee of the Carousel Club, recalled the scene:

RUBY said he knew TIPPIT, and RUBY referred to him by his first name, or a nickname, neither of which I can remember now. He said he knew him quite well. He was definitely referring to J.D. TIPPIT the Dallas Police Officer who was shot on the day of the assassination.

Andrew Armstrong Jr. heard RUBY say the same thing. Crafard had been arrested in Ohio in 1961. Charge: "Sleeper." He was also arrested in Ohio for taking a minor across state lines. Prosecution was declined. When Crafard came to Dallas after the Kennedy assassination he stayed at the Dallas City Mission. He listed his occupation as a carnival worker. [WCE 2430; WR p368; WCE 2275; FBI 62-109060-3680]

After he was arrested for shooting OSWALD, RUBY denied having known TIPPIT: "I know another TIPPIT - in the Special Service Bureau." Evidence to the contrary was supplied by Eva Rubenstein Grant who told reporters:

JACK knew J.D. TIPPIT - I knew him too. He used to come into both the Vegas Club and the Carousel Club many times. He was a fine man.

Stella Coffman, who was employed by RUBY as a head waitress from 1948 to 1953, told the FBI:

Officer TIPPIT had patrolled the area of the Silver Spur, which JACK used to own. He made numerous visits to the club and was a close friend of JACK'S. [WCE 3, C. Ray Hall; *Boston Globe* 12.5.63 Dom Bonafede; FBI 44-24016-443 p3]

### THE THEORY OF WHY OSWALD KILLED TIPPIT

RUBY's plan was to have TIPPIT kill OSWALD for having resisted arrest. TIPPIT would have become a national hero, and no one would have linked him to RUBY, as long as he kept his mouth shut. TIPPIT would also have received a large amount of money from the Teamster Pension Fund. But, as fate had it, OSWALD killed TIPPIT instead of visa versa. RUBY had to fulfill the contract himself, despite his mafia background. The mafia knew it was better to have had a "stand up" guy like RUBY behind bars, rather than an unpredictable OSWALD. RUBY stepped out of the shadows and executed OSWALD. This frightened America. The President is assassinated and then a night club owner kills the alleged assassin two days later? What's going on here? America's credulity was strained. This, along with OSWALD'S leftist background, caused President Lyndon B. Johnson to form the Warren Commission.

JOHN MARTINO stated that someone was waiting to kill OSWALD in the Texas Theatre, where OSWALD had previously been told to go for a clandestine meeting. This did not make sense because OSWALD'S death would not have been easily explained. If TIPPIT shot OSWALD in the course of arresting him, few questions would have been asked. JACK RUBY would not have been needed if OSWALD was to be killed in the Texas Theatre.

#### OSWALD'S ACTIVITIES AFTER THE ASSASSINATION



OSWALD boarded a bus at 12:40 p.m. The bus was the first one that came along, not the one that stopped in front of his rooming house, and as soon as he was clear of the Texas School Book Depository area he got off and took a taxi to the 500 block of North Beckley, five blocks south of his rooming house. OSWALD got out of the taxicab at 12:54 p.m. then walked to his rooming house at a brisk pace. [WR pgs. 6, 151, 154, 613, 619, 622, 636, 648]

OSWALD was beginning to freak out. He jumped on the first bus that came along, and then uncharacteristically got in a taxi cab. OSWALD got out of the cab before it reached his door, because he wanted to make sure no one was following him and that no one had staked out his rooming house. Paranoia had set in deep. OSWALD knew it was not long before the crew HEMMING had gotten him involved with would take him out.

## DALLAS POLICE CAR 207

After the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Earline Roberts reported that a police car pulled up in front of OSWALD'S rooming house at about 1:00 p.m. on November 22, 1963. When the FBI checked the number of the car (207) as supplied by Earline Roberts, it found the car was in another part of Dallas at that time and it did not belong to TIPPIT. She may have been mistaken about the number of the police car but it was unlikely she was mistaken about its presence. By 1:00 p.m. OSWALD was one block away from 1026 North Beckley. Had OSWALD also seen this police car? [CIA 339-136; Belin, *You Are the Jury*, Quadrangle, 1973]

## OSWALD IN THE ROOMING HOUSE



After the police car drove off, OSWALD ran into the house with unusual haste, changed his clothes, and grabbed his Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver and some ammunition. When OSWALD ordered his revolver he also "wrote in order form in ink an order for one box of ammunition and one holster, which was then crossed out by him." [FBI Los Angeles 89-75-241] Earline Roberts saw him leave about two minutes after he entered. A few seconds later, she went to the window and noted the direction in which he was heading.



## EARLINE ROBERTS



(Earlene Roberts, right) and landlady (Gladys Johnson, left) photographed at Oswald's rooming house on the evening of the JFK assassination

Was Earline Roberts, the resident housekeeper where OSWALD lived part, of the conspiracy? Did she report OSWALD'S post assassination movements to those who were going to murder him? There was evidence that linked her to RUBY, however, she did not fit the profile of the personnel who were used in the assassination of President Kennedy. Click [HERE](#) to see in interview with Earline Roberts.

## BERTHA CHEEK

Earline Roberts was the sister of Bertha Cheek. Bertha Cheek was a friend of JACK RUBY since 1948. Earline Roberts and Bertha Cheek were previously involved in housing Cuban exiles. Bertha Cheek's former employee, Jesse Willard Lynch, told the FBI that there were two Cuban residents in Bertha Cheek's boarding house in the spring of 1958. One of them claimed to be a watchmaker and called Havana twice a week from a pay telephone in the boarding house. He stayed for seven weeks. The second Cuban claimed to be buying gas or oil refinery parts in Dallas. He stayed for four weeks. Jesse Willard Lynch was arrested and convicted of housebreaking in 1934. In 1939 he was arrested for a similar offense. Earline Roberts had no recollection of the Cubans. Bertha Cheek initially recalled having rented to them in 1959, then stated she had no recollection whatsoever of any Cubans. Bertha Cheek checked her records for the year in question, and there was no entry for any Cubans.

Bertha Cheek's relative, Berle Cheek, was involved in Dallas gambling activities. [WCE 5353] The HSCA asked Lewis J. McWillie if he knew Berle Cheek. Lewis J. McWillie: "Berle Cheek, yes I knew him too...He had been in gambling prior to my going to Dallas.



We borrowed some money from Berle Cheek I think, while I was at Top of the Hill, I don't know, \$10,000 or something." In July 1957 RUBY used the name "EARL ROBERT RUBY" when he filed an application for a license for the Vegas Club. This was similar to Earline Roberts. [FBI 302 with Gladys Johnson 3.20.64 Dallas, #DC 100-16461-Switzer; FBI 302 with Gladys Johnson 11.27.63, Dallas, #DC-43-Bardwell Odum; Gladys Johnson Test. To W.C.; WC CE3021; FBI LHM Jess Willard Lynch, Phoenix, Arizona 7.16.64 copies destroyed 1.9.73 S.A. Dan Pecton pgs. 1-4; CD entry 44 Memo From Griffen & Hubert to Rankin 3.6.64 pgs. 4-6; FBI 62-109060-3512; FBI 100-10461 4.29.64 Dallas, A.E. Carter; FBI 62-109060 - 1376, 3496.]

RUBY met with Bertha Cheek on November 18, 1963. RUBY claimed Bertha Cheek was considered investing in one of his nightclubs. [WCD 205 p453-62; WC Hubert Memo 3.19.64] The Warren Commission Report: "A possible link between OSWALD and RUBY was through Earline Roberts...Earline Roberts sister, Bertha Cheek, is known to have visited JACK RUBY at the Carousel Club during the afternoon of November 18, 1963." A Dallas interior decorator witnessed this meeting and told the FBI the conversation was harmless.

Had RUBY arranged for Earline Roberts to finger Oswald for a hit? If RUBY did this, Earline Roberts would have known RUBY was part of the conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy. Earline Roberts had no criminal record. If Earline Roberts fingered Oswald for a hit, how she could have communicated this information to TIPPIT remained a mystery. It was more likely that OSWALD had been told to show up at a meeting somewhere in Dallas and the man assigned to kill him knew where he lived and the general route he took that afternoon. HEMMING disagreed:

These are people that are used. They're dumb dummies. They don't know shit. They go to their graves without knowing. Did she drop a dime on him when he came in? You're goddamn right she did. She ran a safehouse. The cops who stopped by her place were on the fucking pad. She takes care of snitches for them. Would she connect something with OSWALD and all that? No. She don't give a fuck. She was told to report on OSWALD'S whereabouts every day. She thinks he's a snitch. Do they have something on her? Usually they do. She isn't the talkative kind. He didn't get the room at first, because a phone call had not been made. He walked in with an ad. Someone fucked up.

### OSWALD'S STATE OF MIND

Between Officer Marion Baker's encounter with OSWALD in the Texas School Book Depository and the police car outside his rooming house, OSWALD realized that he was a patsy in the assassination of an American President and that the Dallas Police Department was going to take him out, and make it look like he had resisted arrest. By this time OSWALD had caught on to HEMMING's game which often involved fall guys and dirtied up patsys.

## OSWALD KILLS TIPPIT INSTEAD OF VISA VERSA



TIPPIT found OSWALD at 1:15 p.m., about one mile from the rooming house, and pulled over to where OSWALD was walking. TIPPIT motioned to OSWALD, beckoning him to approach his car. The Warren Commission:

According to Chief Jesse Curry, TIPPIT was free to patrol the central Oak Cliff area. TIPPIT must have heard the description of the suspect wanted for the President's shooting; it was broadcast over Channel One at 12:45 p.m., again at 12:48 p.m. and again at 12:55 p.m. The suspect was described as a 'white male, approximately 30, slender build, height 5'10", weight 165 pounds.'

OSWALD did not fit this description. TIPPIT looked at him through the right front window. TIPPIT got out and walked around to the front of the car. As TIPPIT reached the left front wheel, OSWALD pulled out his revolver and shot TIPPIT in the head and stomach four times. TIPPIT died instantly. OSWALD emptied the spent shells from his revolver, and then reloaded it, while he made his escape. As he passed a taxi driver parked on the corner, he muttered "poor dumb cop" to himself.



OSWALD felt sorry for Tippit who was assigned a task he was too dumb to perform. At least nine persons saw OSWALD in the vicinity of the TIPPIT shooting with a smoking gun in his hand. A taxi driver, two housewives, a used car salesman and four of his customers picked OSWALD out of a lineup that night. They all placed him in the vicinity of the shooting with a revolver. Had OSWALD come to trial for the TIPPIT murder, he would have been convicted by any jury in the land. Aside from overwhelming eyewitness's testimony, OSWALD had the murder weapon in his possession when he was arrested in the Texas Theater. His prints were on it. The cartridge cases recovered from the crime scene had been fired from OSWALD'S weapon "to the exclusion of all other weapons." The bullets taken from TIPPIT'S body could not be linked with OSWALD'S revolver. In fact, rounds fired from OSWALD'S revolver could not be linked with one another. [CD 744] A paraffin test conducted by the Dallas Police Department revealed OSWALD had recently fired a pistol. The FBI: "...deposits characteristic of primer residues were found on the OSWALD casts, which were taken from his hands. The deposits found on the paraffin casts could not be specifically associated with the rifle cartridges since the primer deposits from the rifle cartridges contained the same elements as the primer residues from the revolver cartridges which were reportedly fired from OSWALD'S revolver subsequent to the assassination." [FBI 105-82555-NR 9.16.64]

By 1:10 p.m. OSWALD realized the "meeting" scheduled for the afternoon of November 22, 1963, was part of the set up and OSWALD zigzagged his way in the opposite direction to Jefferson Avenue. He threw away his jacket. By 1:19 p.m. he had evaded his pursuers. He walked down Jefferson Avenue and was able to put a half-mile between himself and the TIPPIT murder. Just as OSWALD passed a Hardy Brothers Shoe Store, a police car headed in his direction. OSWALD ducked into the store's display area and gazed in the window until the police car had left. Calvin Brewer, the manager of the store, noted OSWALD'S actions. OSWALD knew that the police would

have him in their custody in a matter of minutes and he believed they intended to murder him when they did, so he ducked into a movie theater, *without paying the admission fee*. If Oswald was going to meet someone in the theater he would have paid the price of admission, to avoid drawing attention to himself. Sneaking into the movie house might bring the police to an area crowded with witnesses and make it difficult for them to summarily execute him. Calvin Brewer observed OSWALD sneak into the Texas Theater and reported it to the cashier who called the police. Ten minutes later the police had OSWALD in their custody, bruised but alive. Oswald had drawn a gun from his waist with one hand and struck an officer with his other hand. OSWALD did not try to fire the revolver: testimony of a firearms expert before the Warren Commission established that the hammer of the revolver never touched the shell in the chamber. During the scuffle that preceded his arrest OSWALD yelled: "I am not resisting arrest, I am not resisting arrest." [WCE2003; KCRD-TV Reel 9 30:57/pgk]

### THE DEATH OF EARLINE ROBERTS

Earline Roberts died of a heart attack on January 9, 1966. Richard Warren Lewis, in *The Scavengers and Critics of the Warren Commission*, maintained that her death was a natural one; "A record of her autopsy is on file at Parkland Hospital. She died of heart failure, brought on by calcium deposits so large that they choked her heart's action. The attending physician also indicated she had a mild case of diabetes, pneumonia, a lung infection, ulcers of her throat and cataracts. He says there was no question about her cause of death."

Since TIPPIT failed, RUBY had to kill OSWALD himself, as quickly as possible, despite the consequences. At about 2:05 p.m. the news came over the radio that OSWALD had been taken alive. At 2:37 p.m. RUBY called Alexander Philip Gruber in Los Angeles. [WCE 2300-2350] Alexander Gruber knew RUBY since the late 1920's when Alexander Gruber was arrested and convicted as a grand larcenist. He had several other arrests for theft. In 1946 Alexander Gruber was arrested for procuring in Los Angeles. RUBY told the Warren Commission that Alex Gruber "was a bad kid" who reformed: "I am sure he makes a very legitimate livelihood at this time." [WCE 2204, FBI 44-895 3.9.64 and 3.16.64 Los Angeles, DC - 44-1639 Edward C. Olsen; WCD 1144; RUBY WC Test.]



When the FBI questioned Alexander Gruber he told them he was a scrap metal dealer - a position which would put him in contact with waste handlers. Seth Kantor reported that "Alexander Gruber was associated with Frank Matula, whom JIMMY HOFFA had installed as a Teamster official shortly after Matula got out of jail on perjury charges." [Seth Kantor, *Who Was JACK RUBY*, Everest House 1978 - pages 9,11, 34, 70, 203] Robert F. Kennedy identified Frank Matula as a leader of the Los Angeles Waste Handlers Union who JIMMY HOFFA appointed as a Trustee of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Frank Matula was

one of three men JIMMY HOFFA trusted enough to guard the Union's funds. [Kennedy, *Enemy Within*] Gruber denied knowing Matula when he testified before the HSCA.

### MICKEY COHEN

Seth Kantor maintained that Alexander Gruber also had "known connections with hoodlums who worked with racketeer Mickey Cohen." In 1953 RUBY told, Irving Alkana (died July 2002), one of his business partners, that he was a close friend of Mickey Cohen. There was other evidence of a Cohen-RUBY relationship. In 1956 Juanita Slusher (Candy Barr) was Mickey Cohen's girlfriend. The FBI received information that RUBY was Juanita Slusher's manager around this time. When Juanita Slusher was arrested on marijuana possession charges in 1957, Mickey Cohen hired San Francisco Attorney Melvin Belli as her defense attorney. Melvin Belli would later defend RUBY. Another FBI report stated that RUBY approached a pilot for the Texas Department of Corrections regarding assistance in obtaining nearly parole for Juanita Slusher. A Drug Enforcement Administration report dated 1958 suggested that R. D. Matthews and Juanita Slusher were involved in drug trafficking. The report stated that R.D. Matthews had served two years for cocaine possession. According to JOHN MARTINO, Mickey Cohen was involved in arms smuggling to Fidel Castro from 1957 to 1958. RUBY was involved in an identical venture at the same time. In 1961, Mickey Cohen went to prison for tax-evasion and was not released until the early 1970's. Throughout the fall of 1963 RUBY was in constant contact with Juanita Slusher. Their last known conversation took place on November 12, 1963, when RUBY called Juanita Slusher at her home in Edna, Texas. Alexander Gruber happened to be visiting RUBY in Dallas one day before this call was made. It was believed that it was Alexander Gruber's connection with Mickey Cohen that prompted RUBY to call him at 2:37 p.m. on November 22, 1963. By this time RUBY knew that he was going to have to blast OSWALD himself because it was impossible to find anyone else to do it. RUBY also knew that if you put out a contract on someone and your boy fails, you have to fulfill the contract yourself. So Ruby, a sleazy associate of Carlos Marchello, Santos Trafficante and JIMMY HOFFA [*Newsweek* 8.9.79; Peer Nugent, *Mickey Cohn* Prentice Hall 1975; FBI Los Angeles- 44-895 GAP: mel cover page G; WCE 1228; Messick- *Lansky*; WCE 1306; FBI 44-24016-56; HSCA V9 para. 1054; Martin, *I Was Castro's Prisoner*, Devin Adair, 1963; WCE 2284] On July 29, 1976, Mickey Cohen died of stomach cancer.

RUBY wanted Alexander Gruber to get him an attorney who would defend him after he shot OSWALD. Chances are RUBY wanted Mickey Cohen's ex-attorney, Melvin Belli. According to recently declassified FBI documents, Sam Brody, who was associated with Melvin Belli's law firm, was associated with Mickey Cohen in a questionable capacity:

In connection with the Mickey Cohen investigation in 1958, we received information that Sam Brody was with Mickey Cohen when Cohen was arrested by the Philadelphia Police Department. Sam Brody's room was searched at that time by the police although he was not arrested..." When the FBI ran a check on Melvin Belli the FBI found: "Many references

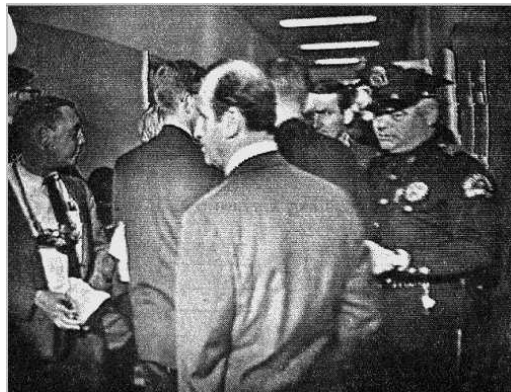
concerning reported telephonic contacts between Melvin Belli and Mickey Cohen.

A further search of its indices revealed that in April 1959, Melvin Belli accompanied Mickey Cohen to the Las Vegas Sheriff's office where Mickey Cohen registered as a convicted felon. Later that year Melvin Belli defended Mickey Cohen on a charge of having assaulted the Chief of the Federal Narcotics Bureau in Los Angeles. [FBI CA 44-895 GAP: mel cover page G; *San Francisco Examiner* 4.28.59, 7.8.59, 8.24.59 as cited in unidentified FBI doc. in author's possession.] CIA documents revealed that Melvin Belli was in contact with Victor Velasquez, a Mexican Attorney who was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. In 1942 Victor Velasquez was a History Professor and Fascist Leader, at the Autonomous University of Mexico City. By 1943, Victor Velasquez was directing drug smuggling for the fascists, until the defeat of the Axis in 1945. That year Victor Velasquez was investigated by American Intelligence and found to be "pro-U.S." In 1958 he had a private interview with the American Ambassador, and in 1962 a CIA Staff employee described him as "Mexico's outstanding criminal lawyer." [FBI 44-24070 727, 729; CIA 616-790, 611-787, 788, 798]



When questioned about RUBY'S telephone call to him on November 22, 1963, Alexander Gruber told the FBI that RUBY called to express his grief over the death of the President. According to Alexander Gruber, RUBY had never been involved in "anything illegal" prior to shooting OSWALD and RUBY'S telephone call had nothing to do with that shooting. Two minutes after speaking with Alexander Gruber, RUBY called Ralph Paul. [WR pgs. 337-340] Five minutes later he left the Carousel Club and drove to Eva Rubenstein Grant's home. He went back to the Carousel Club and directed Larry Crafard to prepare a "closed" sign. When the sign was completed RUBY walked to a nearby delicatessen and bought \$20 worth of food. RUBY went back to Eva Grant's where he ate supper, then drove to the Police and Courts Building where OSWALD was being held. At least five witnesses recalled having seen him on the third floor of Police Headquarters between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. One of them saw RUBY attempt to enter the Homicide Office where OSWALD was being questioned. At about 9:15 p.m. RUBY drove to a local synagogue.

Click [HERE](#) for video of Ruby at Police Headquarters on November 23, 1963



By 11:30 p.m. RUBY was back stalking OSWALD at Police Headquarters. Now he claimed to be a "translator for the Israeli press." RUBY seemed to have Israel and the fate of his fellow Jews on his mind. When OSWALD was shown to the media at a press conference in the basement of the building, RUBY was there, standing on a table, looking for an opportunity to blow OSWALD away. Later that evening RUBY corrected

District Attorney Henry Wade when he mistakenly identified OSWALD as having been a member of the Free Cuba Committee, an Anti-Castro group:

Not the Free Cuba Committee; the Fair play for Cuba Committee. There is a big difference.

He also had Cuba on his mind. Initially RUBY said that he had his revolver with him that night. He later denied it. [FBI DL-44-1639-5563] RUBY spent the rest of the night mingling with the media. He told everyone that he believed there was a connection between H.L. Hunt, the Bernard Weissman advertisement and the assassination of President Kennedy.

On November 22, 1963, at 11:44 p.m. RUBY placed a long-distance call to Galveston, Texas. RUBY dialed the telephone number of Thomas J. McKenna. On November 21, 1963, Thomas J. McKenna had telephoned the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, across the street from the Carousel Club. The call was placed to Breck Wall's room. On November 22, 1963, Thomas McKenna placed no long-distance calls. At 4:30 a.m. on November 23, 1963, RUBY awakened George Senator, then called Larry Crafard. The three men drove to an "Impeach Earl Warren" sign on the Central Expressway in Dallas. There RUBY instructed Larry Crafard to take 3 photographs of the billboard. RUBY noted on the back of an envelope a name and Post Office Box that appeared on the sign. Pursuing a possible connection between the billboard and the newspaper advertisement, RUBY drove to the post office and asked an employee for the name of the man who had rented the box indicated on the billboard. The employee said he could not provide him with such information. [WR p344] Larry Crafard realized that RUBY'S behavior was getting more and more suspicious by the minute. At 9:00 a.m. he assembled his few belongings and left Dallas forever. [WR p345] RUBY had taken a few Preludin diet pills on Friday night and was unable to sleep during the morning of Saturday, November 23, 1963. At 1:30 p.m. RUBY drove to Dealey Plaza where he continued to mingle with the media. RUBY pointed out to a reporter that Captain Will Fritz and Chief Jesse Curry were in the vicinity. RUBY knew both these men. Jesse Curry had put Will Fritz in charge of OSWALD while he was in police custody. Travis Kirk, Officer TIPPIT's attorney, remarked: "Fritz and JACK RUBY were very close friends. JACK RUBY, in spite of his reputation of being a 'hood' was allowed complete run of the Homicide Bureau."

RUBY said that next he drove home and then returned downtown to Sol's Turf Bar. The evidence indicated, however, that sometime after leaving Dealey Plaza, he went to a pay phone located at a garage next to the Carousel Club and made several telephone calls. The manager of the garage heard RUBY mention Chief Jesse Curry's name during a conversation concerning the transfer of OSWALD. [WR p346]

The fact that RUBY made telephone calls from a pay telephone rather than from the phone at his club was significant. The General Counsel of the Warren Commission, J. Lee Rankin, vetoed a staff request for the telephone records of the parking garage, the Cabana Motel and the Egyptian Lounge. [HSCA V9 p188]





At about 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 23, 1963, five news reporters saw RUBY at the Police and Courts Building. OSWALD was scheduled to be moved at 4:00 p.m. and RUBY was on his case, but Will Fritz postponed the move indefinitely. [WR pgs. 346-347] Later that afternoon RUBY was back at Sol's Turf Bar at the Adolphus Hotel, where he showed everyone his Polaroid snapshots of the "Impeach Earl Warren" sign which he insisted was connected with the "Weissman Advertisement" in a way which was supposed to create anti-Semitic feelings in Dallas. That afternoon he spoke with his accountant and civil attorney, made several telephone calls from pay telephones, then went back to Eva Grant's. Later that evening he returned to his apartment and called Lawrence Meyers at the Cabana. Then RUBY went back to Eva Rubenstein Grant's house and called Ralph Paul. A waitress at Ralph Paul's restaurant overheard a bit of the RUBY/Paul conversation that night, and it concerned a gun. Shortly after 11:00 p.m. RUBY returned to the Carousel Club and made a series of five brief long-distance calls. First RUBY telephoned Ralph Paul at his restaurant, then at his home. At 11:36 p.m. a third call was placed to his home at 11:44 p.m. Then RUBY telephoned Galveston, Texas. This call lasted two minutes. Thereafter, RUBY immediately placed a one minute phone call to Ralph Paul's home. At 11:48 p.m. RUBY went to the Pago Club, about a ten minute drive from the Carousel Club, and made more telephone calls.

RUBY stayed up all night once again and at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday November 24, 1963, he was seen near the Police and Courts Building. RUBY returned to his apartment at 9:00 a.m. About an hour later he received a call from one of his strippers who wanted to get paid. RUBY decided to wire this woman part of the money owed her. [WR 346-347] A few minutes before 11:00 a.m. RUBY left his apartment and drove to the Western Union Office. RUBY parked his car, placed his keys and his bill-fold containing \$1000 in the trunk, which he locked, then placed the trunk key in the glove compartment. He did not lock the doors of the car. With his revolver, more than \$2000 in cash and no personal identification RUBY entered the Western Union office. Information on the origin of these Federal banknotes was withheld as of 2010 by the FBI. [FBI NY 65-17696 p5] His transaction there was completed at 11:17 a.m. RUBY proceeded to the Police and Courts Building and entered the police basement from the auto ramp. RUBY said he snuck into the basement when a policeman outside was distracted. Sheriff Roy Vaughn was often credited with having allowed RUBY into the garage where the OSWALD murder took place because of testimony from Napoleon J. Daniels, a former Dallas

policeman. Daniels said he saw someone who looked like RUBY go down the ramp with Roy Vaughn's assent, two minutes before OSWALD was killed.

#### PATRICK DEAN



The HSCA determined that RUBY had been aided and abetted in gaining entrance by Sergeant Patrick Dean. In addition to being in charge of basement security, Sergeant Patrick Dean was at Parkland Memorial Hospital when RUBY was there. Sergeant Patrick Dean failed a polygraph test when questioned about these incidents. HEMMING told this researcher: "The only indicators we have that somebody used resources within the law enforcement community, the biggest one being RUBY'S access to the garage. A personal visit was made to RUBY with a phone call to him. RUBY was at the old *Dallas News* building, looking through the same window I'd looked through when I went through Dallas earlier that year. He heard the shots. Funny thing, I was in the *Miami News* building."

During RUBY'S trial for the murder of OSWALD, Sergeant Patrick Dean testified that RUBY had told him, during a jail cell interview, that he thought about killing OSWALD two days before he shot him. As it turned out, RUBY'S conviction, which carried the death penalty, was reversed on appeal partly because of Sergeant Patrick Dean's testimony. Sergeant Patrick Dean made no secret of his friendship with RUBY. He told the FBI he had known RUBY since 1960 as operator of the Carousel Club. Sergeant Patrick Dean also was a friend of Joe Civello. Civello invited Sergeant Patrick Dean to a dinner in Dallas shortly after Civello was arrested with other mafia leaders at the Appalachia, N.Y. meeting in 1957. Sergeant Patrick Dean was a police sergeant until 1973, when he retired on a disability pension after incurring injuries in an auto accident. Sergeant Patrick Dean was in a coma for 21 days and suffered permanent brain damage. The HSCA was unable to arrange a convenient date for deposing Sergeant Patrick Dean and he failed to respond to its written interrogatories. [HSCA V9 p139; Goltz, *Dallas Morning News* 3.25.79]



RUBY stood behind the front line of newsmen gathered to photograph OSWALD. As OSWALD emerged at 11:20 a.m. RUBY moved quickly forward and without saying a word, pulled out a snub nosed .38 and fired one fatal shot into OSWALD'S stomach. At 11:30 a.m. RUBY was wrestled to the ground, disarmed, and taken into custody. He told the police that he had murdered OSWALD "because he had a communistic look on his face." At 6:00 p.m. Eva Rubenstein Grant visited JACK. Ruby had to get OSWALD before the police got him into the armored car. If he didn't he and his family were toast. Check Ruby shooting Oswald by clicking on these links

Click [HERE](#) to see footage of a very clean hit on the part of RUBY. No one else was wounded and RUBY took OSWALD out with one shot.

Click [HERE](#) to see same event except from a different angle.

Click [HERE](#) for the cryptic JACK RUBY press conference.



"Everything pertaining to what is happening will never come to the surface the world will never know the true facts of what occurred my motive. The people that have so much to gain and have such an ulterior motive for putting me in the position I am in will never let the true facts come above board to the world." There are few institutions in the world capable of suppression on this grand a scale and the CIA is one of them. CIA's ulterior motive would be to create a political climate in which Cuba would be invaded and Communism overthrown. As Eva Rubenstein Grant was leaving the police station she told reporters that RUBY "didn't see why Kennedy was killed when a man like Valachi was permitted to live." Joe Valachi was a mafioso who testified against the mob. Valachi had no knowledge of RUBY. His testimony concerned mob influence in Las Vegas. In jail RUBY was visited by Breck Wall, Joe Campisi and Ralph Paul. [FBI DC-1639 12.2.63 FD-302 with M.W. Newman at Dallas Jack B. Peden]

When RUBY came to trial his attorneys were Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill. Joe Tonahill was a highly successful attorney from Jasper, Texas, primarily engaged in negligence cases. Tonahill had assisted Melvin Belli in the Juanita Slusher case, and had also played an unspecified part in an investigation concerning Mickey Cohen. In July 1961, the FBI received information that Joe Tonahill was a subscriber to a publication which was the Subject of an interstate gambling investigation.

Melvin Belli and Joe Tonahill tried to convince a Dallas Jury that RUBY had killed OSWALD because he had an attack of "psychomotor epilepsy" in the basement of Police Headquarters. RUBY was found guilty and sentenced to death. RUBY dismissed Melvin Belli and hired Percy Foreman, a widely known Houston, Texas, criminal lawyer who specialized in murder cases. The Dallas FBI office was aware of Percy Foreman in connection with his representation of Joseph Francis Civello, top mafia figure in Dallas. [FBI 44-24016-1319] On November 27, 1963, Bobby Gene Moore, a piano player in one of RUBY'S nightclubs, called the FBI and told them he had some information on his ex-boss. Bobby Gene Moore, who had an extensive criminal record, explained that at the same time he had worked for RUBY, he also worked for Joseph Civello at the LaMonte Italian Importing Company. Bobby Gene Moore suspected that Joseph Civello was involved in "racket activities" when he would not let him open certain cartons of imported Italian cheese, although that was allegedly his job. Bobby Gene Moore said RUBY was a frequent visitor to the importing company while he worked there. [WCE 1536; FBI SF 44-494 DL 44-1639 FD - 302 with Bobby Gene Moore 11.26.63 Oakland, Calif. D.F. Hallahan; FBI DL 44-1639 - 1190] When the FBI questioned Paul Roland Jones subsequent to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, he advised them to interview Joe Civello if they wanted to find out if RUBY was "mobbed-up." Paul Roland Jones had been indicted for perjury in the Southern District of New York in a case entitled: *U.S. v. Peter Crosby et. al.*

### RUBY'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE WARREN COMMISSION

On June 7, 1964, RUBY was questioned by the Warren Commission. He said: "... you are weak in what you want to tell the truth about, and what you want to say which is the truth." RUBY was going to tell the truth, but he was going to do it subtly.

RUBY went on to say:

I wanted to get up and say the truth regarding the steps that led me to do what I have got involved in, but since I have a spotty background in the nightclub business, I should have been the last person to ever want to do something that I had been involved in it. In other words, I was carried away tremendously...Now everything is very vague to me as to when this transpired; after they heard the President had been shot or prior to this...Different things came up, flashed back into my mind, that it, dirtied up my background...I knew persons of **notorious backgrounds** years ago in Chicago. I was with the union back in Chicago and I left the union when I found out **the notorious organization** had moved in there. It was

in 1940. Then recently I had to make *so many numerous calls* that I am sure you know of...all these phone calls were related, not in anyway involved with the ***underworld***...as a matter of fact I even called a Mr. - hold it before I say it - Miller...headed the American Federation of Labor - I can't think - in the State of Texas - Miller...called Barney Ross...All these phone calls were related, not in any way involved with the ***underworld***, because I have been away from Chicago 17 years down in Dallas...I want to set you gentlemen straight on all the telephone calls I had...Has every witness been this hesitant in trying to explain their story..."

As stated RUBY had to act quickly when he killed OSWALD. He knew that his background as a Teamster-connected gangster would come to light as a result of toll records, but it was worth it. The calls that he made most certainly concerned the Kennedy assassination as the people he spoke with all had one thing in common – they were gangsters who hated the Kennedys either connected to MARCELLO or HOFFA. RUBY would not say the word Mafia, he used “notorious” and “underworld” instead.

RUBY told the Warren Commission how he stalked OSWALD on the evening of November 22, and how he was going to have to kill him because he was backed against the wall by the mob who would go after his family if he double-crossed them. RUBY:

I went down to the assembly room down in the basement...I got up on a little table there where I know I wasn't blocking anyone's view, because there was an abutment sticking out, and I had my back to the abutment...

RUBY believed that President Kennedy was killed because of a conspiracy:

I am being victimized in a plot on the world's greatest tragedy and crime...*Unfortunately for me, for me giving the people the opportunity to get in power, because of the act I committed*, has put a lot of people in jeopardy with their lives...I may not live tomorrow to give any further testimony. The reason why I add this to this, since you assure me that I have been speaking sense by then, I might be speaking sense by following what I have said, and the only thing I want to get out to the public, and I can't say it here, is with authenticity, with sincerity of truth of everything and why my act was committed, but it can't be said here...I tell you gentlemen my whole family is in jeopardy. My sisters, as to their lives...Naturally I am a foregone conclusion. My sisters Eva, Eileen and Mary, I lost my sisters. My brothers Sam, Earl, Hyman and myself naturally they are in jeopardy of loss of their lives. Yet they have, just because they are blood related to myself - does that sound serious enough for you Justice Warren? Would you rather I delete what I said and pretend nothing is going on.

[Testimony of RUBY 6. 7.64 WCH p181; Memo: To: Henry Wade re: WCH held in the County Jail 6.7.64, with JACK RUBY testifying. pgs.I-21]

Ruby was saying that a coup d'etat had taken place. *"Unfortunately for me, for me giving the people the opportunity to get in power, because of the act I committed."* RUBY was telling Justice WARREN that his family was in jeopardy and that he was a walking dead man. Who had the power to do this? Organized crime! RUBY demanded and was given, a lie detector test. In *Coup D'Etat In America*, it was pointed out that by the time RUBY was asked the important questions, he was desensitized. The HSCA confirmed this and discovered that the FBI's polygraph operator decreased his instrument's sensitivity when RUBY was asked about an underworld conspiracy. [HSCA V9 p8]

### RUBY PRETENDS TO BE INSANE

RUBY'S death sentence was overturned and he began serving a life sentence for the murder of OSWALD. In July 1965, he was interviewed by a psychiatrist after two suicide attempts. RUBY feigned insanity in an effort to get his sentence mitigated and convince the syndicate that he posed no threat to them as a State's witness. RUBY'S delusions took an interesting form. He told the psychiatrist, Dr. Werner Teuter, on July 12, 1965 to July 15, 1965 that his mind was functioning adequately.

He promised that, after having given such proof, he would make me acquainted with a conspiracy which I was to guard with the utmost secrecy...He considers himself the victim of a conspiracy and was 'framed' to kill OSWALD so that OSWALD could never say who made him kill President Kennedy. This framework of course is very complicated and must be guarded with the utmost secrecy. It also involves high government agencies, and his attorneys, whom he considers to be members of the plot...There is considerable guilt about the fact that he sent guns to Cuba - he feels he 'helped the enemy' and incriminated himself. 'They got what they wanted on me.' For him the assassination was an act of overthrowing the government...Then he suddenly related that he cannot possibly divulge how he was framed into killing OSWALD.

RUBY interspersed this information with tirades concerning anti-Semitism that did not make sense:

Do you hear crying - Jewish men and women and children are being slaughtered - in the next room - all over the United States. Auschwitz, Treblinka are operating again - my family is dead. Listen, I hear them, trains, coming to take them away.



The thing that bothered RUBY the most about his part in the conspiracy was that his actions could have engendered a wave of anti-Semitism. RUBY told the Warren Commission:

Unfortunately, Chief Earl Warren, had you been around five or six months ago, and I know your hands were tied, you couldn't do it, and immediately the President would have gotten a hold of my true story, or whatever would have been said about me, a certain organization wouldn't have completely formed now, so powerfully, to use me because I am of Jewish extraction, Jewish faith, to commit the most dastardly crime that has ever been committed. Can you understand now in visualizing what happened, what powers, what momentum has been carried on to create this feeling of mass feeling against my people, against certain people that were against them prior to their power. That goes over your head, doesn't it?

Chief Justice Warren thought RUBY made reference to the John Birch Society, but then RUBY said that President Johnson had "relinquished certain powers to these certain people [the CIA]."

Warren: "Well I am afraid I don't know what power you believe he relinquished to [the John Birch Society]. I think that it is difficult to understand what you have to say.

RUBY: I want to say this to you. The Jewish people are being exterminated at this moment. Consequently a whole new form of government is going to take over our country, and I know I won't live to see you another time. Do I sound sort of screwy in telling you these things?..There is only one thing. If you don't take me back to Washington tonight to give me a chance to prove to the President that I am not guilty, then you will see the most tragic thing that will ever happen...All I know is something can be saved. Because right now, I want to tell you this, I am



used as a scapegoat, and there is no greater weapon that you can use to create some falsehood about the Jewish faith, especially at the terrible, heinous crime such as the killing of President Kennedy. Now maybe something [democracy] can be saved. It may not be too late, whatever happens, Lyndon Johnson knew the truth from me. But if I am eliminated, there won't be any way of knowing. Right now, when I leave your presence now, I am the only one who can bring out the truth to our President, who believes in righteousness and justice. But he has been told, I am certain, that I was part of the plot to assassinate the President.

RUBY did not "sing" to the authorities. During the time he spent behind bars he denied being part of a conspiracy. The syndicate was well-served and retribution did not have to be taken against his family. RUBY named no names. In March 1964 RUBY expressed concern that his jailers were going to kill him. [FBI 44-24016-1231] In October 1966 the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals reversed the conviction of RUBY for the killing of OSWALD in a unanimous decision. RUBY was going to get a new trial. On December 9, 1966, Judge Lewis Holland announced that the second trial of RUBY was to be held in Wichita Falls, Texas, trial date not yet set. In December 1966 widespread cancer was discovered in RUBY'S lymph nodes. He was dead one month later. The major link between the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and organized crime had been silenced. The CIA investigated the possibility of inducing cancer in humans as a means of assassinating individuals by natural causes. The CIA documents, dated in the mid-1950's indicated researchers looked into the use of "physiologically active chemical compounds," particularly the carcinogenic chemical beryllium, as a means of inducing cancer. The memos talked about having used cancer as well as "heart techniques" to "knock off key guys." The memorandums, which were released by the Assassination Information Bureau in Washington, D.C. did not reveal if the CIA ever actually utilized a cancer-causing substance against an unknowing victim. [ZNS New Service, John Newhall, 4.13.79]

In 1993 STURGIS circulated a book proposal in which he implied he knew how JACK RUBY was coerced into killing OSWALD, and how RUBY was murdered in the prison hospital. STURGIS claimed his information came from RUBY'S friend, Wally Weston. In 1976 Wally Wetson "after he read newspaper articles concerning information furnished by one FRANK STURGIS" told the FBI that he suddenly remembered that OSWALD was present at the Carousel Club. He also said that just before he died RUBY told him to the effect that now they are going to find out about my trips to Cuba, my trips to New Orleans, and the guns and everything. [FBI 62-109060-7569; HSCA interview with Fonzi 7.30.76] HEMMING told this researcher:

I went to RUBY'S nightclub one time. I didn't like the place because it reminded me of Bourbon Street. Wally Welch took us over there. I didn't recognize RUBY. We figure, well, Wally could hook us up with some people that could be of support. They knew each other and interchanged their names [Wally Welch / Wally Wetson] on a few transactions. RUBY

would listen to anyone who could kill his sister. He hasn't got the phone number of the council.

### THE GANGSTERS, POST COUP



MIKE McLANEY AND LEWIS J. McWILLIE

When Fidel Castro took power, Mike McLaney was arrested for three months, then freed. Mike McLaney continued to operate under Fidel Castro and hoped to become gambling czar of Cuba. Mike McLaney paid out \$102,000 to Fidel Castro's Ministry of Gambling headed by FRANK STURGIS. When the Casino Nacional was nationalized in 1960 he lost \$7 million. Fidel Castro had Mike McLaney deported a few days later. In the 1960's Mike McLaney built the Royal Haitian Hotel, and operated three casinos in Haiti until the late 1980's. In the mid-1960's Mike McLaney operated in the Bahamas, where he supported Linden Pindling. In the late 1960's mobster Louis Mastriana accused Mike McLaney and Elliot Roosevelt of plotting to kill Linden Pindling. In 1973 Mike McLaney told a Senate subcommittee that he had supported Linden Pindling on the promise that Lindon Pindling would award gambling concessions to him - which Lindon Pindling failed to do. In 1971 Mike McLaney was convicted of income tax evasion. In 1975 Lewis J. McWillie worked for Mike McLaney. The HSCA questioned Lewis J. McWillie about this: "I met Mr. McLaney years ago in Miami. This was in the early 1940's, 1946, or 1947. He had a restaurant called L'Aiglon, a French restaurant...when I went to Cuba, he had the National Hotel. I used to go over and visit with him, you know, like you visit with people. And then I worked for McLaney in Haiti, too. I stayed down there nine months. I got sick down there. McLaney's brother Bill was a very good friend of mine, we're still friends. I worked for him at the Carousel here in Las Vegas. They owned the Carousel, McLaneys. I wasn't aware the McLaneys were involved in anti-Castro activities after their return to the United States. Never heard it before today. I think I read it in a book too..." [WCD 1151b; WCE 1545, 1546, WCD 1655; Testimony of Mike McLaney Before Bahamian Game Board; FBI 62-109060 - 4651; WCD 824] McLaney died on September 9, 1994; *Miami Herald* 9.19.94 p4B]

## FOLLOW UP: MIKE McLANEY SON AND GRANDSON

In received this email from McLaney's grandson:

July of 1998. My father was the son of Michael McLaney Sr. He was the last remaining family member in Port Au Prince Haiti. He was operating the Royal Haitian Hotel and Casino since leaving Cuba. He had several other business ventures but the primary focus was the hotel and three casinos. While my father was departing the bank he was gunned down by unknown persons. No one has taken responsibilities for the shooting and the embassy has not determined reasons. Despite a helicopter manhunt for the assailants it proved fruitless. I heard the news head housekeeper that contacted us via telephone. I arrived on the island with my brother the following morning. We attempted to ascertain the reasons or reasons behind the shooting. What we know for sure that it was not burglary because his motorcycle was not taken and effects were not taken by assailants. One of several rumors and the most likely was: My father was attempting for some time to sell interest in Haiti with the intentions of leaving. Several military personnel which received points from operations were not to thrilled with the sale of property as the prospective buyer was a Missionary outfit out of Chicago (I believe, Not sure of city). This would leave government officials high and dry. The timing makes this the most likely scenario, the prospective buyers agents were planning on coming to Haiti to finalize the details. My father has been in Las Vegas, Haiti and Cuba and had lots of experience in the gaming industry. So no reasons can be ruled out. Information comes to us slowly and the Island is very small and people begin to talk after time has passed. As far as my grandfather : he died of natural causes in 1994. My Great Uncle William is still living in New Orleans (Undisclosed location. The last time I saw him was a few years ago but I get updates on his status. [mike@mclaney.com](mailto:mike@mclaney.com)

## LOUIS J. McWILLIE AND R. D. MATTHEWS

In 1966 R. D. Matthews was arrested in Oklahoma City for possession of a concealed weapon. In 1967 he was arrested in Garland, Texas, for bookmaking. By 1971 R. D. Matthews had moved to Las Vegas, where he remained for two years. In 1973 an FBI Airtel from Dallas reported that an application had been made for an order authorizing a wiretap of R. D. Matthews along with several others. This application stated that there was probable cause to believe R. D. Matthews was involved in the illegal gambling business, along with John Eli Stone and Izzy Miller. In 1976 R. D. Matthews plead guilty in Las Vegas to a violation of the Wagering Act. In 1978 R. D. Matthews was employed by Benny Binion, who operated the Horseshoe Club. There, he worked side by side with Lewis J. McWillie. That year R. D. Matthews was observed in the company of Sam Campisi by a HSCA investigator who had been visiting Las Vegas. The name of R. D. Matthews was mentioned prominently in a Drug Enforcement Administration report on Campisi. [HSCA V9 para. 1054]

## SANTO TRAFFICANTE

SANTO TRAFFICANTE Jr. conducted his business with little interruption throughout the 1960's and became the mafia's chief importer of heroin from Southeast Asia. In 1977 TRAFFICANTE was subpoenaed to testify before the HSCA. He took the Fifth Amendment on every question. In 1978 TRAFFICANTE was recalled before the HSCA. He said: "I never remember meeting JACK RUBY. I never made the statement Kennedy was going to get hit." [HSCA V5 p147, 164, 255, 325, 350, 353, 369, 372, Report pl73 V10 pl85]

## CARLOS MARCELLO

CARLOS MARCELLO accumulated the most wealth, power and prestige. In October 1966, CARLOS MARCELLO, along with his brother, JOSEPH, were arrested in a raid on the Little Appalachia conference at La Stella Restaurant on Long Island. TRAFFICANTE was also arrested. When CARLOS MARCELLO returned to New Orleans he socked an FBI agent in the jaw at the airport. In 1967 CARLOS MARCELLO'S holdings were estimated at \$60 million. His syndicate controlled 800 bookies in Louisiana, owned scores of hotels, a tomato cannery, French Quarter Bars, a city bus line, and an amusement machine company. In 1967 *Life* magazine reported that CARLOS MARCELLO had received \$2 million from the national crime syndicate to free then-imprisoned JIMMY HOFFA. At CARLOS MARCELLO'S request, Aubrey Young, an aide to Louisiana Governor John J. McKeithen, made Edward Partin an offer if he would recant the testimony he gave in 1964 at JIMMY HOFFA's trial in Tennessee. Edward Partin agreed to further negotiations, and met with D'Alton Smith. One of D'Alton Smith's sisters was married to Nofio Pecora, and another was married to Joe Poretto. D'Alton Smith offered Edward Partin \$1 million to recant. Edward Partin refused and notified the Justice Department about the offer. A grand jury was convened. In September 1967 Gordon Novel was called to testify. Gordon Novel had been hired by Aubrey Young to install electronic debugging equipment in the office of Governor John J. McKeithen. [FBI NO 95-50-1067]

In 1970 CARLOS MARCELLO appeared before a State legislative committee investigating high level corruption in Louisiana. CARLOS MARCELLO, represented by Dean Andrews, took the Fifth Amendment when questioned about TRAFFICANTE. In 1971 D'Alton Smith approached Edward Partin again. By this time Edward Partin was facing Federal Racketeering Charges and D'Alton Smith offered to get him off the hook if he would recant the testimony that had put JIMMY HOFFA away. Frank Matula, Frank Ragano, and an attorney in Dallas who was the brother-in-law of RUBY'S friend Gordon McLendon, all attempted to sway Edward Partin. Clint Murchison and Murray Chotiner were linked to the effort, as was RICHARD NIXON. While JIMMY HOFFA was incarcerated Frank Fitzsimmons took over the Teamsters Union. Frank Fitzsimmons met with Allen Dorfman and developed a cozy relationship with NIXON. [USDC-SDF 67-105-CrTC Casey Hearing] In 1971 NIXON commuted JIMMY HOFFA's sentence, and he was released from prison. Frank Fitzsimmons and JIMMY HOFFA began a war which probably ended in JIMMY HOFFA being kidnaped and murdered in July 1975.

Allen Dorfman was part of an entourage that appeared for former President NIXON'S "coming-out" at a golf tournament at the La Costa Country Club. [NYT 8.19.75, 9.29.57; *Miami Herald* 10.3.76; *Los Angeles Free Press* 9.12 - 18.75; 7.15 - 21, 77; *Newsweek* 8.11.75, 12.15.75, 8.4.75; *Time* 9.18.78, 10.13.75; ZNS Dispatch 11.18.77, 10.15.76; *Real Paper* 8.8.73; *Chicago Sun Times* 8.22,67; Tel. Con. bet Arthur Eagan and Edward Grady Partin on 5.19.71]

On March 4, 1986, (deleted) was interviewed and provided the following information...On December 15, 1985, he was in the company of CARLOS MARCELLO and (deleted) conversation. CARLOS MARCELLO discussed his intense dislike of former President John Kennedy as he often did. Unlike other such tirades against Kennedy, however, on this occasion CARLOS MARCELLO said, referring to the President Kennedy, 'Yeah, I had the son of a bitch killed. I'm glad I did it. I sorry I couldn't have done it myself. [FBI DL 183A-1f035-Sub L 3.6.86]

On February 27, 1989 CARLOS MARCELLO, who was in a federal prison hospital, in a semi-coherent state, said that he was "going to get Kennedy when he came to Dallas." James Robert Case advised the FBI that approximately 2:30 a.m. on February 28, 1989, CARLOS MARCELLO was mumbling incoherently and then he got their attention by saying 'mother fucker.' Cates stated that he worked in Unit A most of the time and MARCELLO had not previously used any profanity. Cates then paid attention and heard MARCELLO say, 'That Kennedy, that smiling motherfucker, we'll fix him in Dallas.' About three or four minutes later MARCELLO said, 'I want to see Provenzano in New York.'" [FBI Dallas 175-109 3.3.89] CARLOS MARCELLO was interviewed about these statements on September 6, 1989:

As expected, MARCELLO denied making these statements, as well as denying any involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy. MARCELLO denied knowing OSWALD or OSWALD'S uncle, Dutch (sic) Murret. MARCELLO also denied knowing Edward Becker, or making a statement to Becker in 1962 about having President Kennedy killed. [NARA FBI 124-10253-10112]

#### ALLEN DORFMAN

On January 21, 1983, Allen Dorfman, who had recently been convicted of attempting to bribe Senator Howard W. Cannon of Nevada and was facing 55 years in prison, was gunned down in a Chicago parking lot. The *New York Times* reported: "Mr. Dorfman telephoned a friend, Irwin Weiner, this morning, seeking a \$7,500 partial repayment of a loan. The two men had gone to a bank together, obtained a check in that amount, and proceeded to the Linclonwood Hyatt Hotel where they had a 1:00 p.m. luncheon reservation. As the men left Mr. Dorfman's Cadillac in the parking lot, they were walking between other parked cars when two men ran up behind them and yelled, 'This is a robbery.' Instantly one of the men began firing a 22 automatic. At least six spent casings

were found. Only Mr. Dorfman was hit." [NYT 1.21.83] Irwin Weiner set up his long time friend and criminal associate for a hit.

## HOFFA

Before he disappeared JIMMY HOFFA said:

I know Meyer Lansky. In my opinion he's another victim of harassment. I don't believe there is any organized crime, period. Hoover agreed! He said there was no mafia. They said Allen Dorfman was a part of the mafia. 100% lie! They say my good friend CARLOS MARCELLO called the mob together and put up a \$1 million to get me out of jail. Another lie.

## SAM GIANCANA

A month before JIMMY HOFFA disappeared (June 1975), Sam Giancana, 66, was found face-up in a pool of blood in his basement kitchen. In 1964 Sam Giancana spent 12 months in the Cook County Jail rather than testify before a Federal Grand Jury. After his release, Sam Giancana flew to Mexico where he remained until July 1974 at which time he was deported back to Chicago to face another Federal Grand Jury. In June 1975 Sam Giancana was subpoenaed by the Senate Intelligence Committee. Senator Church wanted to question him about the CIA/mafia link. Senator Richard Schweiker had some questions for him on RUBY. Sam Giancana was murdered a few days before he was scheduled to testify, after a welcome home party for the mob boss at his suburban Chicago home. One of the guests at this party remained behind, and shot Sam Giancana in his basement kitchen with a silenced 22. The Chicago Police, parked outside, did not hear a thing. Sam Giancana's guests that night included Dominick "Butch" Blasi who had become Sam Giancana's bodyguard, and Charles Nicoletti, 60, a Chicago hit man who worked for Sam Giancana as an enforcer. In April 1977 Charles Nicoletti was killed in a Chicago parking lot. Sam Giancana's knowledge of past CIA/mafia operations had made him a liability to the mob. Did Anthony Accardo finally get the edge he needed to eliminate Sam Giancana? Anthony Accardo died on May 29, 1992.

## JOHN ROSSELLI

On May 22, 1961, a bug was installed in Rosselli's apartment in Las Vegas. [FBI 92-3267-272] Rosselli was aware that his bug had been planted. The FBI reported:

On February 3, 1962, this informant furnished information that John Rosselli was in contact with William Graham of Reno, Nevada, regarding an unidentified matter which Rosselli said the "professor" (Joseph Stacher) had asked him about several times the last couple of days. According to informant Rosselli informed Graham that he had told him forty years ago not to deal with this kind of guy. Informant said the matter

in question involved some way what Rosselli called an "inquisition" and more specifically involved something which Graham had signed.

It is possible that the matter concerning Rosselli and Graham was in connection with a current Grand Jury investigation in Los Angeles concerning Joseph 'Doc' Stacher, who was in Las Vegas over the weekend of February 3, 1962, and February 4, 1962. On the same date this informant advised that Rosselli told Charles "Babe" Baron he had taken care of that thing, indicated Rosselli was in contact with Graham at Baron's request. Stacher was formerly associated in the Newark-New York area with Meyer Lansky and Abner Zwillman. Stacher is alleged to have interests in gambling casinos in Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada.

On April 10, 1962, the FBI installed a microphone in Rosselli's residence. [FBI 92-3267-505] In May 1962 Walter Winchell's article in the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* contained the following statement: "Judy Campbell of Palm Springs and Bevhills is Topic Number One in Romantic Political Circles." On June 5, 1962, the FBI reported: "Rosselli is a prominent West Coast hoodlum and is one of the second group of 40 targets for early prosecution. A highly confidential source in Los Angeles reported that the subject informed a friend of his that he had been in contact with a newspaperman named Winchell who informed him 'I'm your man if you need any help.'" [FBI 92-3267-216] Rosselli told him that he was not in any trouble and that the last thing he needed was help from a newspaper man. In July 1962 Rosselli visited the Cal Neva Lodge, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, which was owned by Frank Sinatra.

On August 11, 1962, the FBI reported that Rosselli told (Deleted) that he had received a check from Walter Winchell for a cancer research fund located in Santa Barbara, California. [FBI 92-3267-298] The FBI reported that on August 16, 1962 Irving J. Leff "was at Rosselli's apartment and Rosselli asked Irving J. Leff if he had read Winchell's column about Nelson Rockefeller. (Walter Winchell's column appearing in the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner* for August 15, 1962 carried the statement 'Gov. Nelson Rockefeller's Best Kept secret is a Famous New York Model who has made Headlines.'" [FBI 92-3267-292] On August 31, 1962, the FBI reported:

LA 4396C\* said Rosselli talked to Irving J. Leff this morning and talked about some matter, exact nature not known, and Rosselli said, 'They are a lively outfit,' 'they' want to 'build it in Las Vegas' and 'they' are going down to San Juan. He said Rockefeller found his hotel in San Juan could not do without.' Rosselli could be talking about gambling but seems more likely he may be referring to some entertainment group. [FBI 92-3267-308]

Another FBI report stated:

Rosselli then called Irving J. Leff and related his impression concerning some unknown venture. He said that this guy is a pretty lively outfit, that they want to build it Las Vegas too and they are going down to San Juan.

Rosselli said that they are out of their minds if they go down to San Juan. He said Rockefeller didn't want anything like that down there and tried it for five or six years and now he finds out that he has to have it so he is going for it, that they feel that they need it for the hotel. [FBI 92-3267-318]

On June 21, 1963, the FBI received information that Rosselli was going to visit Washington, D.C. Hoover noted "Follow closely." On July 9, 1963, the FBI reported: "On completion of an extensive preliminary survey it has been determined that a misur installation cannot be made at this hotel with full security. No further attempts to establish this misur are anticipated at this time." [FBI 92-3267-476] On October 24, 1963, the FBI discontinued microphone surveillance on Rosselli. [FBI 92-3267-527] On November 5, 1963, the Justice Department considered empaneling a Grand Jury to inquire into the facts concerning Rosselli's birth. On November 9, 1963, Rosselli told and FBI informant that he was disgusted "with all of the trouble the Internal Revenue Service has been causing him." On July 18, 1963, the FBI reported that Rosselli was on his way to the Cal Neva Lounge on Lake Tahoe. [FBI 92-3267-516] The FBI reported that

....on July 16, 1964 (Deleted) informed the FBI that he and (Deleted) were walking through the Stardust Casino when they were observed by Rosselli. "He made an obvious effort to engage them in conversation. Rosselli stated, among other things, that Attorney General Robert Kennedy was on his way out of office because of the Bobby Baker issue, since President Johnson was personally affected as a result of Kennedy's tenacity in the investigation. Further, Kennedy had tied up over 700 FBI personnel in furthering the Attorney General's inquiries into the 'national crime syndicate.' Rosselli further stated it was his opinion that Mr. Kennedy used certain tactics in the course of these investigations that caused a loss of prestige to the FBI as well as to Mr. Hoover personally. He further stated that certain groups, including Attorney General Kennedy, had tried to force Mr. Hoover to retire prior to the age retirement extension recently extended. [FBI 92-3267-605]

On September 4, 1964, the FBI reported: "In connection with your future coverage of Rosselli, remain alert to the possibility that the 'person close to President Johnson is (Deleted)." [FBI 92-3267-615] On August 7, 1976, Johnny Rosselli's body was discovered in a 55 gallon oil drum floating in Biscayne Bay in Miami. Johnny Rosselli had been tortured, strangled, stabbed, then cut in half and stuffed in the drum.

Johnny Rosselli, like Sam Giancana, was murdered because of his knowledge of the mafia plot to kill either CASTRO or OSWALD or both. The HSCA made reference to a 1967 CIA Inspector General's Office Report. The chapter on Johnny Rosselli was titled: "Should we try to silence those who are talking or might later." The Inspector General suspected Johnny Rosselli of having leaked information on CIA/mafia plots to Jack Anderson.



Shortly after Sam Giancana's death Johnny Rosselli testified before the Senate Intelligence Panel, once publicly, once secretly. His secret appearance dealt exclusively with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Johnny Rosselli talked in hopes of reversing a deportation order from the INS. His testimony remained secret so we have to rely on two sources who were close to him before he died. One was Jack Anderson. Jack Anderson reported that Johnny Rosselli and RUBY were acquaintances. Jack Anderson once quoted Johnny Rosselli as calling RUBY "one of our boys." Jack Anderson added:

When OSWALD was picked up (in Dallas), Johnny Rosselli suggested underworld conspirators feared he would crack and disclose information that might lead to them. This almost certainly would have brought a massive U.S. crackdown on the mafia so JACK RUBY was ordered to eliminate OSWALD.

Johnny Rosselli's story made sense until he told Anderson that President Kennedy's killers, who were part of the TRAFFICANTE organization, were secretly working for Fidel Castro. Johnny Rosselli insisted that shortly after these men had tried to kill Fidel Castro, Fidel Castro had rolled them over and recruited them for his organization. Johnny Rosselli's Attorney, Edward P. Morgan, stated: "There was never the slightest doubt in John's mind that Fidel Castro was responsible for the Kennedy assassination...Johnny Rosselli was certain that the people he (Rosselli) put around Fidel Castro in the CIA plot turned right around and killed Kennedy. The people he still knew in 1967 did it. Two of such individuals were living in the State of New Jersey." Marita put the Novo Brothers in the caravan to Dallas.

#### EDWARD P. MORGAN

Edward P. Morgan had a long association with the intelligence community. Edward P. Morgan, a former FBI agent, had been chief counsel to the House Committee which studied the failure of American intelligence to predict the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. In 1976 he was retained by the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI.

The Dade County State's Attorney's Office subpoenaed Meyer Lansky, Charlie Tourine and an associate of TRAFFICANTE in its probe of the Johnny Rosselli killing. TRAFFICANTE had dined with Johnny Rosselli one month before Johnny Rosselli was murdered.